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Tests on donor blood 'fail to find Aids'

By Andrew Velth, Medical Correspondent

Aids blood tests, now being evaluated by the Department of Health and due to be introduced at transfusion centres later this year, are failing to identify many infected donors, according to a report in the *Lancet* yesterday.

The report came after the inquest on 20-month-old Anthony Thorpe who died of Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, after being given a contaminated blood transfusion in the United States.

As the baby's father, Mr Gerald Thorpe, from Sussex, was led weeping from the court the coroner, Dr Douglas Chambers, who recorded a verdict of death by misadventure, said he would be writing to the Department of Health's Chief Medical Officer, asking what was being done to prevent similar deaths.

The department is relying on blood transfusion centres being able to screen all donors with tests for antibodies to the virus being developed by US companies and one British team.

First reports on the tests from German researchers have shown that they have a high rate of false positives—they pick up people who are not carrying the virus.

The latest report, presented to doctors at a *Lancet* School of Hygiene conference, published in the *Lancet* yesterday, shows that they are also failing to pick up true positives—in other words donations carry the virus might slip through the net.

The *Lancet* says: "These German studies suggest that screening is not yet picking up many true positives in people not already at risk."

There is also evidence to show that the cost of the virus—the bit recognised by defensive antibodies in the blood stream—is also changing. That may mean, specialists fear, that a test based on a sample of the virus in Britain but no one knows for sure.

Nevertheless, doctors say, the tests should be introduced as a matter of urgency. Tests would have to be offered to people at risk to stop them giving blood, the *Lancet* reports.

No one has developed Aids after a blood transfusion in the UK, and the chances of anyone doing so are extremely small, the Department of Health said. But blood specialists say it would be surprising if the virus had not infected blood supplies: two men and a pregnant woman developed antibodies to the virus after being given the blood of a man who later died of the disease. The mother and her baby are being monitored but neither has developed the disease.

Dr Robert Gallo, co-discoverer of the Aids virus, told the London meeting that 10-25 per cent of people with antibodies went on to develop some form of Aids-related illness not necessarily the full-blown fatal disease.

Fourteen of the 72 American children who have died of Aids were infected by blood transfusions.

The death of Anthony Thorpe brings the number of

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Two banks reduce base rates as pound makes new gains

No early cut in mortgage level

By Margaret Dibbon and Peter Rodgers

Building society rates will stay high despite yesterday's half per cent cut in base rate by the Midland and Barclays banks, which takes them a quarter per cent below NatWest and Lloyds.

Receipts for March show that societies took in only £214 million, whereas they need £300 million a month to meet mortgage demand.

Expectations for April are that although the higher savings rates will bring in more money the total will still fall below the amount needed. Mr Richard Weir, secretary-general

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of the Building Societies Association, said that the figures showed that the industry was still in a "very tight" position.

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Convent sex bursts on US

From Alex Brummer in Washington

A book which lifts the habit on romance under the cloisters of America's convents has become a publishing sensation.

Lesbian Nuns — Breaking Silence, is a collection of nine narratives from 51 women, nine of whom are sexual relations with their vows. It is edited inside the monastery. It is edited by two university teachers who are avowed lesbians and former nuns.

Published by a small feminist/lesbian publishing house in Florida, the book attracted little attention at first. But after the Boston Globe began to take an interest all that changed: now it is heading for the New York Times best seller lists.

Much of the book's success can be indirectly attributed to the actions of the Boston arch-



Nigel Hegarty leaving Belfast magistrates' court yesterday

Riot policeman 'killed' man at 10ft with plastic bullet

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

A CONSTABLE in the Royal Ulster Constabulary appeared in court yesterday charged with the murder of a man who was shot at a distance of 10ft with a plastic bullet.

Mr Martin McGuire, a leading Republican fund-raising group, Noraid, who had earlier been banned from entering the UK.

Reserve Constable Nigel Hegarty, aged 27, whose address was given as Grosvenor Road Police Station, Belfast, was remanded in custody for a week by the resident magistrate but at a later High Court hearing he was granted bail.

During the second hearing,



Sean Downes

counsel for the Crown said police moved forward as Mr McGuire was introduced to a crowd outside Sinn Féin headquarters in west Belfast.

Constable Hegarty saw Mr McGuire run forward with a stick in his hand, towards two policemen who had their backs to him.

The Crown claims that he fired his riot gun at a distance of about 10ft. Mr Downes subsequently died.

In an initial statement, Constable Hegarty said he had fired at a distance of between 20 and 25 yards. But, the court was told, he later told detectives: "When I first made my statement on the day after the incident, I was still quite confused and I said 20 or 25 yards from me when I fired. Since then I have given it some thought and I realise it was less than 25 yards and this person was running towards me when I fired."

Counsel said that police felt Constable Hegarty would comply with conditions for bail.

Counsel for Constable Hegarty said that the essential evidence would be a statement made by Constable Hegarty.

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Migrant rules may be published — Brittan

By Michael Morris

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, announced yesterday that a fundamental review has just begun of the instructions for immigration control staff, as part of a general strategy to provide for greater openness.

One of the issues to be considered in the review, he disclosed, was the possibility of producing volumes of instructions which might be in a form suitable for publication.

In a speech in Manchester, he was replying for the first time to criticisms in a 188-page report by the Commission for Racial Equality, which alleged that the immigration rules were racist and the government was too control-winded.

He said the figures hardly bore out an obsession with control, since in 1984 some 99.9 per cent of all passengers subject to control were admitted to the UK. Refusal rates varied but, even so, some 99 per cent of passengers from the Indian sub-continent were admitted.

However, after stressing that internal guidance was regularly adjusted, he said that a more fundamental review of the instructions produced for the staff of the immigration and nationality department was in progress.

It was fundamental that staff must perform their duties without racial discrimination. An issue to be discussed was provision for greater openness with the department's clients, the public, and those who have a particular contribution to make to discussion of immigration policies.

Open meetings with local communities and greater access for the media would continue. "These steps are now clearly established as features of the way in which the department will conduct its business in the future."

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Next week

Monday

JINGLE ALL THE WAY
Some say commercial radio will die if the BBC takes ads. Some say the BBC will slump, too. But a leading figure argues that commercials on every channel—would give radio new life.

A BIGGER BYTE
Big time women entrepreneurs like Steve Shirley are rare. She started in the computing business with nothing and now employs 1,000 people. Guardian Women reports.

PLUS POSY



Sort of...
They're Guardian readers...
On comics!

Tuesday

CLASS OF THEIR OWN
Progress may be the watchword but "progressive" education is on the defensive. What is going on? Education Guardian investigates.

Wednesday

MUSIC OF THE SPAS
Every time you sip Evian water, you help sponsor a young musician. Edward Greenfield tunes in to the Water Music.

SONG AND DANCE
What's your average busker wearing nowadays? Guardian Women takes to the streets.

NEWS IN BRIEF

TGWU inquiry

A TGWU inquiry was announced yesterday into the ballistics investigation of the 24 member nations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development—who make up the industrialised non-Communist world—last night called for the talks to be held as soon as possible.

However, ministers and officials attending the organisation's two-day annual meeting in Paris were unable to agree on a target starting date. There must now be fears that the new round will not begin soon enough to head off a trade war between the United States and Japan which could rapidly spread to the rest of the world.

Yesterday saw an uncharacteristic climbdown by the Americans in an attempt to heal the breach between the US and some Western European countries notably France. The US Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, announced that Washington could consider hosting a parallel meeting of key industrial nations to discuss ways of strengthening the international monetary system.

The French have argued for some time that the tariff and other barriers which have grown up since the end of the world trade talks in 1979 are not the principle obstacle to trade. They have pointed instead to the strength of the dollar which, they say, is a consequence of an international monetary system in which speculative currency movements can cause violent fluctuations in the exchange rate.

Mr Willy de Clerq, the Common Market's Trade Commis-

Trade war fears bring talks closer

By John Hooper, Trade Correspondent

A new round of world trade talks is likely to be held in an attempt to offset the damaging effects of protectionism.

A number of international bodies have warned that trade barriers threaten to stifle the tentative recovery of the world's economy. The 24 member nations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development—who make up the industrialised non-Communist world—last night called for the talks to be held as soon as possible.

However, ministers and officials attending the organisation's two-day annual meeting in Paris were unable to agree on a target starting date. There must now be fears that the new round will not begin soon enough to head off a trade war between the United States and Japan which could rapidly spread to the rest of the world.

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Mr Willy de Clerq, the Common Market's Trade Commis-

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Conduct warning to pit strike barristers

By Penny Choriton

Radical barristers who defended miners during the pits dispute face disciplinary action by their professional conduct committee for allegedly breaching Bar rules.

The misconduct charges include "touting," as barristers are not allowed to approach prospective clients but must be introduced to them by solicitors.

At least one barrister has been charged with touting and it is believed that several more may face other allegations of professional misconduct.

A letter sent to all heads of chambers by the Senate of the

Inns of Court and the Bar warns that any barristers who attended general meetings held in the presence of National Union of Mineworkers officials, solicitors and others, before representing miners in the courts may have acted improperly.

Mr Michael Murray, the Senate secretary, yesterday declined to say how many Bar members had been issued with disciplinary proceedings.

It is believed that only barristers who travelled to mining areas to represent miners free will be charged.

The letter states: "It has been drawn to the attention of the Professional Misconduct Committee that last December there was a meeting attended

by a number of barristers, solicitors and representatives of the NUM concerning the problems of defending miners on charges arising out of incidents associated with the recent strike. We believe there have been other such meetings.

"From what occurred at the meeting it is quite clear to the committee that there is a grave danger that any such meeting will give rise to serious professional impropriety. The letter cites eight ways in which Bar rules may have been breached.

"These include breaching the 'cab rank rule', under which barristers are obliged to take cases as they are presented to them, and not to pick and

choose only clients of whom they approve. They also include breaking the rules on confidentiality between barrister and client, prohibition of discussing case details with potential witnesses, and the right of the accused to choose how to plead.

The letter adds that several barristers left the December meeting—believed to have been in Nottinghamshire—as soon as they realised the position they might find themselves in.

"The committee wish to give their clear view that attendance by counsel at any such meeting should be avoided. It carries a wholly unacceptable risk of actions inconsistent with professional propriety," says the letter.

"It is inevitable that anyone

who attends such a meeting in future will be at risk of having to answer a charge of professional misconduct."

One leftwing barrister who had attended such a meeting before representing a striking miner free said yesterday: "This letter seems to be saying that if you are a barrister, and if you believed in the miners' cause to such an extent that you represented them in court free—then you run the risk of being reported to the Bar and now face the prospect of being charged with professional misconduct."

"If this is the case, then the rules of the Bar have been subverted to suit the political views of top judges and the anti-trade unionists."

About 100 of the 5,000 barristers could be described as radical, and are mostly grouped in half a dozen London chambers.

Some leftwing lawyers believe that judges in strike areas were extremely annoyed to find themselves dealing with well-briefed London or Liverpool barristers defending striking miners.

According to the letter, the professional Misconduct Committee apparently considered whether the special circumstances of the miners' strike justified such meetings. But it believed that they were "in no way necessary," since "the usual 'counsel only' meetings can be held to discuss cases where there are a number of defendants."

Miners' NEC may escape fines

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

The miners' union may change its rules to indemnify members of its executive from court fines and legal action.

Most of the executive currently face legal action by working miners to take them personally liable to repay a £200,000 contempt fine imposed on the union. The rule change, proposed by the executive, is part of a comprehensive review of the NUM rule book which will be put to the annual conference this summer.

The proposed change suggests that "every member of the national executive shall be entitled to be indemnified by the union in respect of every act done as such a member, which is in accordance with the union's rules or otherwise, so long as such act was done with the prior or subsequent consent of the conference or national executive."

"For the purposes of this rule, the word 'act' shall include the not doing, or failing to do, something as well as doing anything."

Legal rulings during the miners' strike showed that union officials could be liable to repay sums expected by the union outside the union's rules.

The executive will tell the conference that "this new rule has been drafted by leading counsel to ensure that the union does not have to encounter the same difficulties as in the 1984/85 dispute. We strongly advise that the rule be accepted as written."

A separate suggested rule change has been drawn up to deal with the dismissal of officials by area unions—such as the recent contested sacking of Mr Henry Richardson, the leftwing general secretary of the Nottinghamshire miners' union.

The executive is proposing that an area official cannot be dismissed or suspended unless a resolution to that effect is passed first by a two-thirds majority of a special area council taken on a card vote. That resolution must be confirmed by a two-thirds majority of a specially convened area conference. The resolution must also be confirmed by a majority of two-thirds in a ballot.

These proposals will make area officials more answerable to the national union, thereby reducing the union's federal structure. However, Mr Justice Mann ruled on April 2 that the Nottinghamshire area union executive was entitled to dismiss Mr Richardson on the grounds that it had no confidence in him.

A third rule change proposed by the national executive is designed to make area rules more subservient to national ones. The national executive suggests that "the rules of each area and constituent association shall be deemed to be part of area rules."

Finally, the national executive is proposing a new form of associate membership of the NUM. The rule reads: "Associate members shall be all those persons who, in the opinion of the NEC, are suitable to be associate members and who are admitted to associate membership by the NEC."



FIGHTING FAMILY: During the Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst the Queen presents the sash of honour to the top woman cadet, Nichola Vickers, whose father and grandfathers were generals.

Higher insurance bill 'puts jobs in jeopardy'

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Firms may have to shed staff or halt recruitment to meet the increases in employment national insurance contributions for the higher paid, it was claimed yesterday.

Sir John Hoskyns, the director-general of the Institute of Directors, has written to Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, urging him to phase in the higher contributions announced in the budget over the next three years.

His letter follows growing protests from industry, newspaper proprietors, and television companies about the decision to abolish the ceiling for employers' contributions.

The move will bring in £300 million to offset the £1.150 million which will be lost to the Government when it cuts national insurance contributions for those earning less than £80 a week.

Sir John says in his letter: "The redistribution of the tax burden most adversely affects many of the sorts of business

which are crucial to the capacity of this country to create more wealth in the future: small computer software houses and small firms of specialist 'know-how' consultants who are very highly paid because their skills are desperately needed."

At the other end of the scale, companies such as ICI and STC will have to pay an extra £4.5 million and £7.5 million respectively.

He warned that these companies "will probably not take on any more unskilled staff, and may indeed have to shed staff in order to pay the extra national insurance contribution on the skilled staff who are least dispensable."

A spokesman for Standard Telephone and Cables said yesterday: "We are very worried about the extra charges, which will cost our firm millions of pounds. It will either have to come out of research and development, or we will have to review our recruitment."

The contributions affect all people earning over £13,780 a year.

BR warning to union

By our Labour Staff

Leaders of the National Union of Railwaymen have been summoned to a meeting with British Rail management on Monday, where they will be warned that BR will seek damages against the union if it goes ahead with next week's one-day strike in Scotland without a ballot.

The NUR has called the strike on Wednesday at the request of two branches angry at the proposed rundown of Scotland's last big railway engineering workshops at Springburn, Glasgow. More than 1,200 jobs will be lost,

but the NUR believes that 700 other jobs at the works are also threatened by the introduction of the more reliable class 150 train.

British Rail is not expected to seek an injunction before the strike, but will tell the union leaders that the NUR will expose itself to a damages claim from BR of up to £250,000 if no secret ballot of the NUR's 12,000 Scottish membership is held.

A well supported strike would not only hit Scottish train services, but also have a knock-on effect on the English InterCity service.

OBITUARY Guinness artist

JOHN GILROY, the advertising artist who created the Guinness toucan, died on Thursday, aged 86. From 1960, when his first Guinness poster went onto the hoardings, until 1981 his famous signature became synonymous with excellence in advertising art.

His most celebrated poster, designed in 1934 for the slogan Guinness for strength, showed a workman, blithely carrying a massive girder on his head. A masterpiece of poster design, it combined a persuasive sales pitch with the quirky sense of humour which became the hallmark of Guinness advertising.

Other classic poster designs included the sea lion who ran off with the zoo-keeper's glass of Guinness, the ostrich who swallowed a Guinness—glass and all—and the unforgettable toucan ("Just think what toucan do").



Frank Gilroy—classic posters

Parents 'replace absent teachers in pay dispute'

By Andrew Moxon, Education Staff

Unpaid helpers, including out-of-work teachers, are being asked to undertake a voluntary action in schools, it was alleged yesterday.

The growing use of parent volunteers came under attack at the annual conference of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers at Torquay.

Attempts have allegedly been made to use volunteers to cover for absent teachers and to blunt the effect of disruptive action taken by union members in support of their pay claim.

However, an attempt to compel teachers to refuse to work with volunteers performing professional duties was blocked by a procedural move. The executive had appealed to the delegates not to force into action at a time when it was already locked in the pay dispute.

Instead, the conference deplored the underfunding of education, particularly in primary schools, which had led to volunteers being used in roles which are properly the province of professionals.

A union survey has shown that up to 50 unpaid and unqualified helpers are being used in single schools. The volunteers are taking children for remedial maths, swimming, cookery, needlework, religious education, and crafts—and many more are being used to hear children read.

"In one school, a grandmother was listening to a child read, and she herself was illiterate," said James Warren, an executive member.

SA ambassador meets Ulster's political leaders

From Paul Johnson, in Belfast

The South African ambassador to the UK, Mr Dennis Worrall, met the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, during a trip to the province, it emerged yesterday.

The unscheduled meeting with Mr Douglas Haughey lasted only minutes and Mr Worrall said yesterday that security matters were not discussed. The ambassador also denied meeting any representatives of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the British Army or the Ulster Defence Regiment on his three-day trip.

Although the visit to the province had been described as private, Mr Worrall emphasised yesterday that he had travelled in his official capacity to meet as wide a range of politicians and community leaders as possible.

During a press conference in Belfast, he said he would have been willing to sit down and talk with Sinn Féin, but contacts had been set up by the Northern Ireland Office

and it chose not to include Sinn Féin in the itinerary.

"It is my responsibility to meet all political parties which operate legally in the Northern Ireland situation," Mr Worrall said.

Asked to compare the situations in Northern Ireland and South Africa, he said the differences outweighed the similarities.

"I would not attempt to draw any major parallels. Fundamentally, it is a political problem and a question of how to accommodate different identities," he said.

"That seems to be an important part of the problem in Northern Ireland and certainly a very important part of the South African situation."

The leaders of the Alliance Party and the National Social Democratic and Labour Party declined to meet Mr Worrall but he did see officials from the Democratic and Official Unionist Parties as well as being briefed by a senior official at the Northern Ireland Office. The ambassador said he had also met Roman Catholic community leaders.

Two killed in house fires

A woman died yesterday trying to save her four-year-old son from their blazing home in Ipswich Heath Road, Ipswich. An eight-year-old boy, Steven Paito, died in a blazing bedroom at his home in Brighton Road, Ipswich. His parents managed to rescue their daughter Sarah, 10 and Kirsty, 18 months, from the house in Fountains Close.

It was poorly built stable in Ipswich Heath Road, Ipswich. An eight-year-old boy, Steven Paito, died in a blazing bedroom at his home in Brighton Road, Ipswich. His parents managed to rescue their daughter Sarah, 10 and Kirsty, 18 months, from the house in Fountains Close.

Local government bill 'puts council specialists at risk'

Lords fear for services after GLC abolition

By Seumas Milne

Local government scientific and technical services are threatened by plans to abolish the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties, according to a report by the House of Lords science and technology committee.

The committee's chairman, Lord Cranbrook said yesterday that amendments would be put to the Local Government Bill, which is due for a second reading in the Lords on Monday to try to protect specialist laboratory services, waste disposal and traffic control departments, and computing centres.

The Government has suggested that the lower-tier boroughs and districts make voluntary arrangements "to provide these services. But Lord Cranbrook said such an option would be "inefficient."

Statutory joint boards were needed to maintain what were "centres of excellence."

Yesterday's interim report was published after the select committee's concern that the legislation's potential impact on scientific and technical services in the big cities had been overlooked.

The report suggests various administrative options to maintain services on the current scale. It calls for strategic transport authorities to replace passenger transport boards; a joint authority for highways and traffic for Greater London; and single authorities for waste disposal, local government and the metropolitan counties.

"Essential amenities of urban life in Greater London and the English metropolitan

counties depend on local government's scientific and technical capacity," says the committee.

The top-tier urban authorities with disposal departments and the GLC's scientific services branch are described as "centres of excellence," and as such "are slow to develop but easy to destroy."

The committee believes that most of the scientific and technical services strengths are attributable to economies of scale. If they are devolved to the boroughs and the districts, lower salaries will lead to a loss of top professionals.

Also singled out is the authorities' work in the field of highways engineering and urban traffic control.

Mr John Gunnell, leader of the Labour-controlled West Yorkshire County Council, last night described the report as a "timely bombshell" for the Government.

"It is inevitable that any independent report investigating will reveal serious flaws in the abolition plans," he said. Desperate measures were needed to preserve services of such quality.

Mr Simon Turney, chairman of the GLC's public services committee, said that only an overall authority such as that of County Hall would maintain health and safety standards where millions of people were concerned. But the select committee was right that "effective administration of local government depends on preserving the integrity of many of the specialist services built up by the GLC and the county councils."

Kinnock joins in criticism of Thatcher

By James Naughtie, Political Correspondent

MR NEIL KINNOCK joined the chorus of criticism over Mrs Thatcher's Far East tour yesterday when he accused her of using it to parade her prejudices and defame the British people.

The Labour leader said in Carlisle: "No wonder she has become the Prime Minister who goes just about anywhere in the world and almost nowhere in her own country."

Labour leaders had seized happily on the alleged gaffes perpetrated by the Prime Minister in her whirlwind tour, and Mr Kinnock and Mr Denis Healey, the shadow foreign secretary, yesterday produced another assortment of similar criticisms in their enthusiasm.

Mr Healey said the Prime Minister's foot had been in her mouth throughout the tour: "Rhoda the Rhino has never had a more ruthless rampage." Mr Kinnock, on the other hand, compared Mrs Thatcher to a bull sliding around on a pin table.

He said that if travelling was supposed to broaden the mind it was obviously not working with Mrs Thatcher. Twice this week Mrs Thatcher has said that running a country is like bringing up children. That might be the style of government in the company she has been keeping. It won't do here."

Labour and Alliance MPs believed that Mrs Thatcher's trip had provided them with considerable ammunition with which to attack her style. They are critical of her for appearing too regal and for seeming to make policy by the rule of the road.

Mr Kinnock said yesterday that it was clumsy arrogance in Mrs Thatcher which made her use the tour "to advertise the problems which she has caused and deepen the hostilities which she has created."

Defiant Sheffield defers rate decision

By David Rose

Sheffield City Council decided yesterday to continue to defer the making of its rate and to carry on with the strategy of illegal non-compliance with the Government, which half the 16 rate-capped authorities have abandoned.

It was becoming clear last night that councils and individual councillors who follow this policy may soon be at risk from legal action, not only from surcharge itself, but also from additional expenditure but also from contempt of court sanctions.

In Sheffield, the decision to defer making a rate was approved unanimously by the Labour group.

The council leader, Mr David Blunkett, a member of Labour's national executive, said last night that where there was bitterness within the party, people should remember that not setting a rate was "only a tactic."

Despite the number of councils which had abandoned the policy, it had achieved its main objective, he said, placing rate-capping on the national political agenda.

The London borough of Haringey yesterday became the eighth rate-capped Labour council to agree to set a rate, approving a budget within the Government's limit yet allowing for a small amount of growth.

The Haringey rate emerged at 4 a.m. yesterday, after an acrimonious council session, punctuated by shouts and missiles from demonstrators.

Mr George Meehan, the Labour group and council leader, and his deputy, Ms Angela Groaty, remained at earlier group meetings, and Labour was split, with half its 34 members refusing to set a rate.

The Conservatives' 22 votes moved to defeat the no-rate motion and a rate was later approved.

The acting group leader, Mr Tony Harris, said the 15 per cent increase—an extra £1.90 a week to the average Haringey household—would protect services and jobs.

With £11 million obtained from capital funds by "creative accounting" some growth was possible.

Mr Blunkett said yesterday he remained hopeful that a meeting between rate-capped councils and the Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, might soften the Government's attitude.

Privately, however, it is understood that most Labour authorities expect few concessions.

Mr Blunkett conceded that a court case concerning the London borough of Hackney on Tuesday might allow contempt proceedings against those refusing to set rates.

Two weeks ago Mr Justice Woolf told Hackney that by Tuesday it must set a rate or give assurances of doing so within a reasonable period.

If the judge now made a firm order which the council ignored, contempt of court proceedings would almost inevitably follow. Similar cases are being prepared against other rate-capped councils.

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Suddenly, everyone wants to launch a newspaper

No fewer than five parties are trying to scoop their rivals by getting their title on, and off, the presses first. Martin Wainwright reports

FIVE new titles are under consideration by newspaper groups for launching within the next two years.

The latest possibility is a joint venture between Irish newspaper publishers and their counterparts in the East Midlands, who have held preliminary—and sketchy—discussions about a new national daily using colour printing and aimed primarily at housewives.

The Irishmen involved are from the Sunday World, a folksy tabloid with a lot of colour printing. The paper has the largest sale of any in Ireland and belongs to the Irish Independent group, owned by former rugby international, Dr Tony O'Reilly.

Mr Bartle Pether, chief executive of the group, said yesterday that the Irish Independent was not officially involved in the move, which

was a "private initiative" by a couple of his colleagues connected with the Sunday World.

Much less nebulous is the Messenger, the provisional title chosen by Mr Eddie Shah of the Messenger Group in Warrington for a national daily priced at 17p, for the presses at the £72 million plant it has built in east London. The paper is intended to start on a £10 million budget as a London rival to the existing Stan-

dard, expanding to become a 24-hour paper, with morning and evening editions selling nationally, if all goes well.

No launch date is likely to be fixed until negotiations already in their third year, continue with unions over the intended move of the group's Sun and News of the World titles to the new plant. Different reasons lie behind a similar delay at Robert Maxwell's Mirror Group Newspapers over the launch of the Evening Mirror.

venture and has paid a £1.5 million deposit on five presses, with the £62 million balance guaranteed by the international branch of Hungary's national bank.

Rupert Murdoch's London Post is the probable second runner, with News Group anxious to find daytime work for the presses at the £72 million plant it has built in east London. The paper is intended to start on a £10 million budget as a London rival to the existing Stan-

dard, expanding to become a 24-hour paper, with morning and evening editions selling nationally, if all goes well.

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This is intended to take on the London evening market as a free paper, printed in colour with considerable new technology involved.

Maxwell's paper would be expected to take a Labour and radical line, something it would share with the fifth proposal, the News on Sunday. The main name behind this is an exile from the Mirror, Mr Olive Thornton.

Mr Thornton, who has developed a private interest in cattle breeding, is concentrating on raising £4.5 million through trade union sources as well as the traditional pension funds and private investors.

Mr Thornton probably has the most uphill struggle of the would-be Lord Coppers, but he has talked recently of 56 pages, tabloid format, a target of 450,000 readers, and 60 per cent ownership by employees and a trust.

سكزا من الامن

Screening 'could cut death toll by a third'

Government urged to expand breast cancer X-ray service

By Andrew Veltch, Medical Correspondent

A full-scale X-ray screening service for breast cancer could cut the death toll from the disease among older women by almost a third, according to a survey published yesterday.

The health minister, Mr Kenneth Clarke, immediately promised a wide-ranging review of screening facilities, but ducked doctors' demands that he should fund a national computerised system for women at risk to be tested.

About 20,000 women a year develop breast cancer with 12,600 dying in 1983, more than from any other form of the disease.

An early diagnosis reduced the chance of the cancer cells spreading to other parts of the body, and increases the possibility of a cure. Mammography as a form of treatment is gradually being replaced by lumpectomy, the removal of the tumour itself. Drug treatment has also improved.

Until now specialists have disagreed on the merits of X-ray screening or mammography, but the results of the eight-year Swedish study, involving more than 100,000 women and published in the *Lancet* yesterday, are regarded as all but conclusive.

The Swedish team used mammograms to screen women aged 40-74 every two or three



Kenneth Clarke: policy to be reviewed

years. Deaths from breast cancer were reduced by 31 per cent and cases of advanced breast cancer were reduced by a quarter.

Screening services in Britain need urgent improvement and expansion, says the *Lancet* in a leading article. There is no longer much dispute that early detection and treatment can alter the course of the disease.

Other findings that mammography is more effective than clinical examination.

Women at risk should be invited for screening through computerised records of local

family practitioner committees. Let us hope that the Government will provide additional funds for this life-saving cause, rather than expecting health authorities to divert resources from areas of pressing need," the *Lancet* says.

Specialists were sceptical of Mr Clarke's promise of an inquiry. The minister's own cervical cytology committee of experts recommended the same computerised system for cervical cancer screening four years ago but it had still not been set up. The Imperial Cancer Research Fund has calculated that it would cost around £16 million to computerise family practitioner committees.

This study requires us to carry out a major review of policy on the availability of mammography and its role in screening," Mr Clarke said.

"We plan to bring together experts to advise us on the policy we might adopt and suggest a strategy for its implementation. We hope we can assemble such a group quickly, and that they will be able to formulate their advice in a few months."

But, he went on: "We need to study the consequences of any changes in policy. This will have to include the assessment of the financial, manpower, and other resource implications and consideration of a timetable for implementation."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Esso's lead is followed

THE other leading oil companies yesterday followed Esso's lead and put up prices. The increases taking the price of a typical gallon of four-star to 204.6p will take effect from midnight tomorrow.

Only two weeks ago the same companies, again led by Esso, cut the price to below 22.

Inquest opens into boy, 10

WAYNE Keaton, whose body was found in the river Leen at Nottingham on Sunday, had a chest injury and strangulation marks, a pathologist said at an inquest which was opened and adjourned yesterday.

Wayne, aged 10, of Gouthland Close, Bestwood Park Estate, Nottingham, was dying, it not already dead, when he went into the river several days before. Dr Stephen Jones, a Home Office pathologist, told the Nottinghamshire coroner Mr John Langham. A 21-year-old labourer has been charged with murder.

Welsh language protesters freed

TWO leading members of the Welsh Language Society were freed from prison yesterday and immediately renewed calls for the Government to set up a development body to promote Welsh language education.

Mr Dafydd Lewis, a 31-year-old research student from Aberystwyth, and Ms Melinir Francis, aged 34, served two months after being convicted of causing £5,000 damage to equipment and files at the Conservative Party's Welsh headquarters in Cardiff.

Social worker's job confirmed

A COUNCIL has reaffirmed its decision to appoint a senior social worker involved in the case of the battered child Jasmine Beckford as its director of social services.

Mr Denis Stimpson, aged 40, will take up his £28,000 a year appointment with the London borough of Southwark on Monday.

Future governor to visit Falklands

THE Falklands governor-designate, Gordon Jewkes, who is currently consoling in Chicago, is going on a 10-day visit to the islands.

Judge Brian Gibbons, QC, (above), retired at the Old Bailey after 50 years at the Bar. Judge Gibbons, aged 72, a former recorder of West Bromwich and Oxford, was leading counsel for the army during an inquiry into the shooting of civilians in Londonderry in 1972.

Both admitted stopping the badger by blinding it with a spotlight. Their three huncher dogs attacked and killed it before they could stop them, they said. They then cut off the badger's head, intending to mount it. They claimed they had been rabbiting.

Police and RSPCA officers who raided the youths' homes, found the trophy, a head of prey which was still alive, and a stuffed song thrush, a buzzard, two starlings, and a squirrel which had already been mounted.

The chairman of the bench, Mr George Mitchell said: "This court is horrified by the grisly activities that you two young men perpetrated. We have heard of the callous way in which you treated these animals. We believe you will not respond to a custodial sentence."

At an earlier hearing they pleaded guilty to killing the badger, possessing a buzzard and having a dead song thrush — a protected bird.

Mr Justice also admitted possessing a cosh, going equipped to steal, and theft of petrol with 50 similar offences of petrol syphoning to be taken into consideration.

Starks also admitted possessing a shotgun without a certificate. Both youths were ordered to pay £100 costs, and an order was made that their dogs be held by the RSPCA.

Magistrates gave instructions for the shotgun to be confiscated and destroyed, and other items seized.

British setback in sea dumping report

By Paul Brown

A scientific study of the effects of dumping nuclear waste in the sea, to be published next week, is expected to recommend further research — an unwelcome result for the British Government, which is eager to resume ocean disposal of large and increasing quantities of low level waste.

The lack of firm conclusions in the 180-page report, which pools all current scientific knowledge on the environmental impact of dumping, reflects the failure of scientists to agree on the long-term effects of low level radioactivity on sea creatures.

The report was prepared by a group of independent scientists for the International Maritime Organisation. The IMO acts as the secretariat of the London Dumping Convention, which controls sea disposal.

Scientists and politicians will draw up recommendations on the report for the full meeting of the convention in September.

Nuclear nations, particularly Japan and Britain, are anxious to resume dumping as the easiest way of getting rid of large quantities of low level waste.

Non-nuclear nations, particularly those whose coasts are closest to the proposed dump sites, such as Spain, are likely to continue opposing sea disposal on the grounds that it cannot be proved.

Britain wants to continue using a dump site in the Atlantic 500 miles from Land's End and the Spanish coast.

Since Britain was forced to stop dumping because of the action of National Union of Seamen two years ago the waste has been stored at Harwell.

Pressure for land disposal or resumed sea disposal is building up but the Government has been unable to produce a sufficiently independent scientific report supporting its case.

The Government-FUC Holliday Report, published in December, recommended further work and a continued dumping moratorium until sea disposal could be proved the best environmental option.

Dr Manfred Nauke, of the International Maritime Organisation, said: "At the end of the day the decision to dump or not will be a political rather than a scientific one."

Britain is lifting for repair the international telephone cable which runs through the nuclear dumping ground off northern France used between 1971 and 1976.

The International Maritime Organisation has warned the London Dumping convention countries of the work.

Dr Nauke said that member countries were not being warned because of any danger but because the disturbance to the sea bed might distort research work.

Rebel drug firms may be made to cut prices

By Andrew Veltch

The Government may force rebel drug companies to cut prices, despite the industry's agreement to reduce profits on sales to the NHS by 2.5 per cent.

He confirmed that "one or two" companies had raised drug prices, despite the industry's agreement to reduce profits on sales to the NHS by 2.5 per cent.

He warned the rebel firms: "We do have legal powers to insist on reducing price levels. We would use our statutory powers if we felt it was essential to protect the health service."

His warning followed yesterday's *Guardian* report that some drug firms were refusing to cut prices, saying that they deserved price rises to offset the losses incurred by the introduction of the limited drugs list.

Mr Clarke has repeatedly told the firms that they will not be allowed to raise prices and negate his intended savings of £70 million on the limited list and £45 million as a result of the reduced profit target.

Mr Clarke added: "One or two companies have raised the prices of minor products."

A deal under which firms would have cut prices and applied for rises in July on the basis of changing financial circumstances, has collapsed.

Beckitt and Coleman, one of three firms reported to have raised prices, denied yesterday that it had joined the rebels.

Mr Mark Foster, the managing director of the firm's pharmaceutical division, said: "We have reduced our prices in line with our reduced profit target. We have not increased the prices of NHS products, we have only increased the prices of products outside the control of the Government. We are not one of the companies in rebellion."

After the hearing, which was attended by about 50 peace campaigners, he said: "The prospect of gaol does not terrify me. The revenue will never get their money that way, no matter how many times I am sent inside."

This year the Revenue decided to serve an order threatening gaol or bankruptcy. Judge Bernard Braithwaite at Gloucester county court yesterday gave the retired librarian three weeks to pay the £109 tax and costs or go to prison for 21 days. He did not proceed on the bankruptcy.

Mr Windsor, who says he has a moral right to insist that taxes are not spent on armaments, told the court: "We want to see a change in the law to allow us to say that we want our money used for peaceful purposes."

Mr Windsor of Brunswick Square, Gloucester, said he had abandoned plans to appeal further against the initial judgment of a county court registrar.

After the hearing, which was attended by about 50 peace campaigners, he said: "The prospect of gaol does not terrify me. The revenue will never get their money that way, no matter how many times I am sent inside."

Campaign to shed light on computer law

By Peter Large, Technology Correspondent

AN official guide to computer privacy laws was launched yesterday, backed by a telephone inquiry service. About 250,000 copies of the guide are being distributed at a cost to the taxpayer of around £40,000.

But the guide will be of immediate value only to commerce and industry. It will not benefit the private citizen until at least September 1987, when the Data Protection Act of 1984 comes into force, allowing individuals to check that personal information held in computer

databases is accurate and being used only for lawful purposes.

The guide — the first of "a living series" on how the act will be implemented — is published by the Data Protection Register, Mr Eric Howe, a former deputy director of the National Computing Centre.

Mr Howe, who began work on implementing the act six months ago, now has a staff of 18 at his headquarters at Wilmshurst, Cheshire. Three have been assigned to answering questions from the public on 0625-535777. The staff should total 50 by September, and the budget for

the operation's first full year is believed to be about £1.5 million.

Any organisation handling personal information in computers — including government departments and the police — has to register under the act. The target date for completion of that process is next March.

After that date anyone storing personal information in computer systems who has not registered will be committing a criminal offence, and anyone using inaccurate information will be liable to pay compensation. But it will not be until September 1987

at the earliest, that private citizens will have the right to check information.

Computer users will have to tell the registrar what information is held and for what purpose, where it comes from and where it may go, including transfers abroad.

But no information is required on the security precautions for computer systems.

The Data Protection Act, 1984: Guideline No. 1: Office of the Data Protection Registrar, Springfield House, Water Lane, Wilmshurst, Cheshire, S79 5AX.



Yehudi Menuhin at the Royal Festival Hall, London, yesterday, where he met competitors for the second Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition, which began later in Folkestone and ends next Saturday. The 48 competitors are all under 20. Picture by Simon Grosset

Parks staff boycott work survey

By Martin Wainwright

Staff in the award-winning garden department at Regent's Park, London, plan to refuse to co-operate with a £50,000 survey of their work, which they see as the first step towards privatisation of their jobs.

The three-month study begins on Monday, and its brief requires a look at "alternative options for getting the work done." The Environment Department recently contracted out playground and lavatory attendants' jobs in Regent's Park to Exclusive Cleaners, who take over in June.

The department said it was astonished at the threat not to co-operate as the decision to commission the survey had only been carried out after extensive discussions with the trade union side. Officials believe that misunderstandings may have arisen which they want to iron out on Monday.

Gardeners and other staff in the royal parks are traditionally cautious on industrial relations, and have only been on strike once, for half a day. The somewhat feudal nature of the job, with bird-keepers, tree-fellers and a vine-keeper, is reinforced by the fact that almost all the staff enjoy it.

"If they wanted to take more people on, we could get on the phone to ex-staff and they'd be back tomorrow," said one gardener. Service of 20 or 30 years is not uncommon.

But the workforce in the 10 parks has been reduced steadily by natural wastage from 615 in 1981 to 479. Unemployment at the cuts and alarm at the possibility of privatisation have increased union numbers.

In Regent's Park, staff left the General Municipal and Boilermakers' Union last year for the Transport and General Workers' Union, which they thought stood for the GMBATU numbers fell from 47 to three while TGWU membership rose from two to 70, out of a workforce of 79.

Union representatives will meet the consultants, Inbucan of Esher, Surrey, on Monday, but have decided on a policy of non-cooperation. One gardener said that they would ask the consultants why they were there, but that they already knew the answer: to pave the way for privatisation.

The Environment Department said privatisation was not being considered at this stage, and that the survey was a pilot study aimed at seeing how the standards of the park could best be maintained. The consultants' brief describes the use of private contractors as an "open question."

Bomb attack

A fire-bomb was thrown yesterday at a building where a Fijian Army rugby team was sleeping. The police say the milk bottle, containing a chemical, possibly petrol, smashed a window and caught light but fell to the ground outside. Nearly 40 players were staying at the Afan Lide in Port Talbot but none of the men in the dormitory was injured.

Sellafield pollution test

By a Correspondent

Pollution tests centred on the Sellafield nuclear plant in West Cumbria will begin next week.

Meteorological Office officials will release tracer gas from a 200-ft high chimney at the reprocessing plant. Scientists will then use a Hercules aircraft fitted with an intake tube to suck in samples of the gas over the Lake District.

The Hercules, from Farnborough, will cover an

area from Morecambe Bay in the south to Carlisle in the north, and from the Irish Sea to the Eden Valley, Durham.

The plane will begin the tests next Tuesday, weather permitting. A specially equipped vehicle will carry out similar tests along the M6.

The tests, which will last until mid-May, will help in weather forecasting and help to indicate how animal diseases such as foot and mouth can spread.

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Peace protester faces gaol over Revenue bill

By Paul Brown

A 67-year-old peace campaigner refusing to pay tax towards armaments faces imprisonment after a change in tactics by the Inland Revenue.

The courts in previous years granted the right to send in bailiffs and auction Mr Arthur Windsor's belongings until his tax debt was paid.

This year the Revenue decided to serve an order threatening gaol or bankruptcy. Judge Bernard Braithwaite at Gloucester county court yesterday gave the retired librarian three weeks to pay the £109 tax and costs or go to prison for 21 days. He did not proceed on the bankruptcy.

Mr Windsor, who says he has a moral right to insist that taxes are not spent on armaments, told the court: "We want to see a change in the law to allow us to say that we want our money used for peaceful purposes."

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The Save the Children Fund, Dept. 5191104, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD

Albania rejects Soviet sympathy

From Barney Petrovic in Belgrade

Albania firmly rebuffed the Soviet Union yesterday by rejecting Moscow's condolences on the death of the country's leader, Enver Hoxha. An Albanian spokesman in Vienna said: "The message was sent back as unacceptable."

Earlier, Albania said it would not invite foreign representatives to the funeral of Mr Hoxha, who ruled the country for 40 years.

Yugoslavia, Albania's main trading partner, sent condolences to Albania in a frosty official message. But through an editorial comment by the official news agency Tanjug, Yugoslav leaders signalled that they were ready to improve relations and support the country's independent stand regarding East and West.

Good bilateral and neighbourly relations between Albania and Yugoslavia are of great importance and interest for the peoples of our two countries and for peace and cooperation in the Balkans," Tanjug said. "Yugoslavia has always supported and still supports the independence of Albania."

Mr Hoxha was a full general of the Yugoslav army, since its two fought together against Nazi Germany. But he became a bitter enemy of Yugoslavia after Tito quarrelled with Stalin and led his country out of the Soviet orbit in 1948.

The official Albanian news agency, ATA, yesterday quoted the funeral commission as saying some countries had already said they wanted to send a delegation to Monday's funeral.

The funeral commission is headed by Mr Ramiz Alia, the Head of State and heir-apparent.

Radio Tirana said Mr Alia and the Prime Minister, Mr Adil Canani, headed a guard of honour as Albanians filed past Mr Hoxha's body as it lay in state at the People's Assembly building.

Radio Tirana played classical music and marches all day, interrupted occasionally by messages of condolence from war veterans, worker brigades, peasants, and youth representatives.

In Paris, the exiled pretender to the Albanian throne yesterday called for a "free and democratic" government in Albania. "The death of the secretary-general... marks the passing of an era and heralds the start of a period of instability within our country," Leka I, son of the late King Zog, said.

New move on abortion

Madrid: Spain's Socialist government yesterday drew up plans for a new abortion law after the country's highest legal authority rejected its original draft as unconstitutional.

The government brushed aside talk of political defeat and said the ruling by the 12-man Constitutional Tribunal meant only that its law was inadequate and not that abortion was in itself against the Constitution.

The court ruled that the 1985 law, which permitted abortion in cases of rape, danger to the mother's life and malformation of the foetus, did not sufficiently "protect" the right to life guaranteed under the 1978 Constitution.

The Justice Minister, Mr Fernando Ledesma said all that was now required was to submit a new law with the guarantees stipulated by the Constitutional Tribunal.

The decision, reached with a casting vote by its President, was greeted by the right-wing opposition as a moral and political victory and denounced by socialists, communists and feminists. — Reuters

Polish leaders boycott UK embassy reception

Howe visits grave of murdered Solidarity priest

From Hella Pick in Warsaw

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, paid an emotional visit last night to the grave of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the pro-Solidarity priest murdered by members of the Polish security services. Earlier Polish ministers had boycotted a reception at the British ambassador's residence to which a handful of leading Solidarity advisers had been invited.

But after more than two hours of talks with General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Sir Geoffrey emerged genuinely impressed by the Polish leader's willingness to discuss the country's internal as well as external problems and his desire to re-establish good relations with Britain.

The general assured the Foreign Secretary that his regime remained committed to the creation of a more democratic system, though remaining Communist, and that he had no wish to have any political prisoners.

However, no promises were made that Poland would release its existing, probably just over 100 political prisoners, who include three leading activists, rearrested since they were amnestied last year.

There was no suggestion that their threatened trials would be abandoned.

General Jaruzelski and his colleagues stressed in their talks with Sir Geoffrey that Western sanctions imposed a serious handicap to Poland's economic recovery and to national reconciliation. There was much discussion of Poland's need for new Western credits.

The Foreign Secretary held out no promises of an early change in British refusal to support new trade links. He said this had little to do with politics and depended far more on Poland's readiness to reschedule its existing debt and meet its interest obligations.

The Polish government had been told that Sir Geoffrey would visit the church of St Stanislaw Kosciuszko, the parish church where Father Popieluszko is buried. He

went there last night after dusk and stood before the flower carpeted grave which has become a national shrine. While he did not lay a wreath, he did go into the church where candles flickered, illuminating the crown of thorns around photographs of the murdered priest, and where there are many reminders of Solidarity.

Yesterday the Polish press gave full coverage to the speeches exchanged on Thursday evening between Sir Geoffrey and the Polish Foreign Minister. But only the government paper, Rzeczpospolita, printed the full text. The official party paper, Trybuna Ludu, cut out the most telling sentence by the Foreign Secretary that "I would not be true to the friendship between our peoples, if I did not tell you of my anxiety on reading reports of some recent moves in a contrary direction" from national reconciliation.

Before ending his week-long visit to East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland, Sir Geoffrey this morning will call on the Polish prime minister, Cardinal Glemp. He will also visit Warsaw's restored royal castle and present a picture on behalf of the British government.

Poland's new official trade unions, which replaced the banned Solidarity movement, were given full legal status yesterday. Membership is patchy. — Reuters

Bonn urged to ban VE Day reunions of former SS men

From Anne Tomlinson in Bonn

The Government has been asked to ban a series of veterans' reunions which are planned by former Nazis to mark next month's 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The head of the Jewish community in West Berlin, Mr Heinz Galinski, appealed yesterday to the Interior Minister, Mr Friedrich Zimmermann, to stop the meetings which, he said, would damage West Germany's reputation abroad.

But a ministry spokesman said Mr Galinski should be aware that the Federal Government was not in a position to ban meetings of veterans' organisations unless they violated the laws of assembly. It was up to the local state government, in this case Bavaria, to act.

However, the CSU government in Munich has given a similar explanation and said that local authorities are responsible.

Between May 3 and 13, about 1,000 veterans of the Waffen SS's feared Death's Head tank division, the elite Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler, and the Hitler Youth plan to hold meetings and rallies in the spa resort of Nesselwang, in the Bavarian Alps.

They will benefit from the hospitality of Mr Rolf Buchheister, a former member of the SS and a member of the CSU who has given over his hotel to the veterans and their wives. The local CSU, which won 72 per cent of the vote at the last elections in Nesselwang, will meet at the end of April to decide whether Mr Buchheister should be expelled from the party.

Some 80 organisations, including the Social Democrats, the greens, the pro-Moscow Communist party, trade unions, and the churches have promised counter-demonstrations in Nesselwang on May 11.

The Bonn Government said that it did not agree with Mr Galinski that the reunions were a provocation that would distort the spirit of the official May 8 commemorations, in which 40 years of peace and reconciliation will be the theme. "While we do not welcome or encourage such meetings, there is nothing we can do about them," an Interior Ministry spokesman said.

The people of Nesselwang, which has 3,000 inhabitants, have set up their own protest campaign and have threatened to boycott Mr Buchheister's hotel, which relies heavily on tourism.

They have also rallied to the support of the local Catholic priest, Father Franz Gress, who in recent sermons has said that it was "a Christian's duty to illuminate dark corners" and that the reunions constituted "a mockery of the victims of Nazi dictatorship."

The 44-year-old priest has since received anonymous letters calling on him to resign since he could no longer be regarded as "a priest of the forgiving Jesus Christ."

They have no time or sympathy for Nazi veterans. A recent opinion poll has shown that 44 per cent agree with the official government view that May 8 must, above all, be a day for remembering the victims of the war, the division of Germany, and the refugees. Forty-one per cent thought it should also be a day for reflecting on the rise and fall of Hitler.

'Unsafe airports' claim denied

From Jane Walker in Madrid

SPANISH civil aviation authorities yesterday strenuously denied allegations, made by a member of the Spanish Airline Pilots' Union, that the majority of the country's airports are unsafe and that eight should be closed.

The claims were made in an official report leaked to the news magazine, Tintero, in which the pilots' union spokesman, Commander Jose Antonio Silva, claimed that there was a grave risk of accidents in a grassy air space because of poor facilities and lack of equipment. "Some Spanish airports ought to be closed. They are dangerous," he said.

The airports named by Commander Silva include many used every year by hundreds of thousands of tourists. These are the airports of Madrid, Malaga, Alicante, Barcelona, Mijas, and the three airports in the Canary Islands. It says that the tourist boom has saturated the Spanish airports and that there is too much traffic for the controllers to handle.

The denial was issued by the spokesman for the Spanish Civil Aviation Authorities, Mr Jose Antonio Castro. He said: "The information in the report is simply not true and does not correspond to reality."

Mr Castro pointed out that although the number of passengers flying to and from Spanish airports have increased, the actual number of flights has decreased because of the large capacity planes now being used. There was a 1.3 per cent decrease in the number of aeroplanes using Spanish air space last year. Therefore it is incorrect to say that the numbers of planes have increased.

Last year Spanish airports were inspected by Mr Carlos de Weck, the Italian head of the EEC Airports Commission, and according to his findings, Spain complies with European standards.

The problems between the airline pilots and the authorities are of long standing. War of pilots are former Franco air force pilots who are opposed to socialist reforms in the two national airlines, Iberia and Avia.

Air traffic controllers have demanded the dismissal of the director for civil aviation as well as the head of the control centre for the Madrid region.

Mr Victoriano Martin, head of the Madrid region control station, said yesterday that the attitude of the unionists was "irresponsible". He added: "I am not surprised they want me to go. When I came here there was only one man per sector. The rest were playing ping pong or cards. I immediately put on two controllers per sector."

Yesterday a spokesman for the pilots union tried to play down the report. Captain Manuel Blanco, a member of the executive committee of the union and the Spanish representative to IATA, the international airline pilots' association, said: "Spanish airports are not dangerous. When I first heard of the so-called report I was very surprised."



"He's innocent," Cathleen Crowell Webb said as she left court after Judge Samuels (right) upheld the rape conviction against Gary Dotson (left) despite testimony that the rape never took place

Rape verdict upheld despite perjury plea



MARKHAM III: A judge has upheld the conviction of a man who already has served six years of a 25 to 50 years prison sentence for a rape his accuser now says never happened

Cook County Circuit Judge Richard Samuels decided not to grant freedom to Gary Dotson, who was convicted of raping Cathleen Crowell Webb in 1977.

"The petitioner has failed to sustain his burden (of proof) and I cannot find that perjury was committed," Judge Samuels said.

Earlier in the day, Dotson, 25, took the witness stand for 30 minutes and denied he had assaulted the woman. Dotson testified that he had never even seen Mrs Webb until he appeared at a preliminary hearing to answer charges.

Mrs Webb, 23, now a mother of two living in New Hampshire, testified last week that she was never raped on July 9, 1977, as she said before. She said she conceived the story when she heard she was pregnant. — AP

Peru poll campaign ends in murder

From Mike Reid in Lima

One man died yesterday in a clash between rival political propaganda brigades as Peru's presidential election campaign drew to a close.

Police said that supporters of the two leading contenders for the presidency clashed in a working class district near Lima's airport. The dead man was beaten with stones and clubs.

Peru's 8.2 million voters go to the polls tomorrow to elect a new president, two vice-presidents, 60 senators, and 180 congressmen.

They are expected to deliver an overwhelming rebuff to the right-of-centre parties that have governed for the past five years during which the country has plunged into an acute economic and social crisis.

Alan Garcia, aged 35, of the left-of-centre Apra party is expected to win the presidential election, with Lima's mayor, Alfonso Barrantes, of the Marxist oriented United Left (IU) front taking second place. Between them, they are almost certain to take 75 per cent of the vote, with parties winning a similar proportion of seats in congress.

However, Mr Garcia is highly unlikely to win the absolute majority needed for outright election tomorrow, and, according to the forecast, will face a run-off ballot against Mr Barrantes in mid-June.

The hopes of the right were diminished last year when President Belandier's Popular Action and its former partner in government, the Popular Christian Party, decided to run separate campaigns.

But the sharp swing to the left also reflects the radicalisation of Peruvian society over the past decade, as successive economic austerity programmes have cut living standards but

have failed to turn a depressed economy around.

Both Apra and the left have attempted to capitalise on the popular pressures for change. Apra has centred its campaign on the useful and dynamic image of Mr Garcia, often compared here to Spain's young Prime Minister, Mr Felipe Gonzalez.

Although Apra is Peru's oldest political party it has never won power, being blocked in the past by banning and military coups. However, there are no immediate indications that the military now wishes to return to power.

Apra mixes populism and social democracy. While Mr Garcia's campaign stance has been firmly to the left of centre, he has been careful to avoid detailed policy commitments. His party has postponed publication of its government programme until after the elections.

But Mr Garcia has said that Apra will protect Peru's industry, give greater priority to agriculture, and take a tougher diplomatic stance towards the country's foreign creditors.

Mr Barrantes has been more specific, outlining a programme on nationalisation, administrative decentralisation, and state-led economic reactivation. The large turn-out at IU's final rally underlined the party's strength in Lima's shanty towns, and the success of the IU municipal administration's public health programme, which distributes a million free glasses of milk a day to children and mothers.

Fears that the Maoist-led Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas would carry out threats to disrupt the elections with terrorist attacks have proved groundless. This points to the apparent success of the military's drive to contain Sendero Luminoso, though at a high cost in human rights violations.

Senator on voyage of Discovery

From Mark Tran in Washington

The space shuttle Discovery finally blasted off from Cape Canaveral yesterday after a 55-minute delay with Republican Senator Jake Garn among its seven-member crew. The hold-up was caused by a cargo ship which wandered into the area where the booster rockets fall, and by cloudiness.

Discovery's mission, postponed five times because of technical problems, originally was scheduled to take off at 8.04 a.m. on the fourth anniversary of the original Shuttle Columbia's maiden flight, and 24 years to the day after the Soviet Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly in space.

The shuttle was due to deploy a Canadian communications satellite on its first day. Telesat of Canada invested \$75 million in the equipment and is hoping to find a buyer. A "for sale sign" adorns the satellite. A second communications satellite, to be used by the Defence Department, should be released later today.

The crew will also operate a drug processing machine, observe the human cardiovascular system, study space motion sickness, and conduct experiments in growing protein crystals that could lead to drugs for the treatment of cancer and other disorders.

The presence of Senator Garn, chairman of the subcommittee that oversees the NASA budget, on the shuttle has attracted much publicity. The first space-bound politician will be wired up for several medical experiments. One unidentified colleague wrote to the balding Mr Garn saying: "If you find that hair grows in zero gravity, please see if you can get me on a future flight."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tobacco leaf 'safe'

JAPAN'S only cigarette plant said yesterday that tobacco leaves, widely linked to cancer and heart disease, contain a substance which suppresses cancer-causing agents. But other cancer specialists said the research was not conclusive.

Japan Tobacco said that tests carried out on mice by the firm's research institute over a 20-week period showed the substances, cembratriene-diol (CBT), cut the growth of cancerous tumours by between 30 to 50 per cent.

The mice were all painted with a cancer-inducing agent but those also painted with CBT produced fewer cancerous tumours. — Reuters

Hoarder to die

A NIGERIAN court yesterday sentenced a tanker driver to death in Port Harcourt for hoarding nearly 5,000 gallons of petrol, which is illegal under the anti-corruption laws. Vincent Aguilanah cannot appeal against the tribunal sentence. — AP

Concorde hitch

A BRITISH Airways Concorde flew into Moscow for the first time yesterday with 98 tourists aboard. The flight took five minutes longer than the airline's regular Moscow service, because Moscow would not allow Concorde to fly supersonic through Soviet airspace. — Reuters



Miss Ellie back

DALLAS Barbara Bel Geddes (above) will return to her role of Miss Ellie in the autumn, a studio spokesman said yesterday in Los Angeles. Ms Geddes, aged 62, was forced to leave the television series as the mother of the Ewing oil family after undergoing a quadruple heart bypass operation two years ago. — Reuters

Satellite pact

WEST Germany and ArianeSpace signed an agreement yesterday for the launch of two new satellites in 1987 and 1988. Copernicus One and Two, satellites, which will provide new television and radio cable services and improve telephone links between West Germany and West Berlin, will be launched from ArianeSpace's junior base in French Guiana. — Reuters

Libyan surfaces

OMAR SODANI, one of 140 Libyans expelled from Britain after the 1984 Libyan embassy siege, is registered as a graduate student at a Brussels university, sources said yesterday. Police have checked the report but officials have refused to comment on the man who was the Libyan People's bureau spokesman during the siege. — AP

Rectors bribed

MANY Soviet students are awarded places at universities because of influential connections or bribes, a Soviet newspaper said yesterday. Describing the practice as widespread, the paper launched its investigation after the rector of Yaroslavl University, with links to Moscow, was dismissed for favouring would-be students. — Reuters

Kennedy denial

SENATOR Edward Kennedy's eldest son yesterday denied reports that he would run for Congress next year as a Representative for Massachusetts. Young Edward Kennedy will be 25, the minimum age for serving in Congress, before next year's election. — Reuters

Runner barred

A BLACK South African runner, Mark Plaatjes, was barred yesterday from the Boston marathon on Monday because of a ban by the Athletic Congress on South African contestants in international sporting events. TAC passed the rules to protect against apartheid in South Africa. — Reuters

Vietnam poll

A US poll yesterday showed that 12 per cent of US citizens thought Washington supported North Vietnam in the Vietnam war and 21 per cent either did not know or did not remember. Of 1,506 people questioned, 57 per cent had no clear idea of why the Vietnam war was fought. — Reuters

Bus hits train

A BRAZILIAN bus was hit yesterday by an empty passenger train at a level crossing in Llavallol, leaving 16 people dead and 10 injured. A faulty level-crossing barrier was blamed. — AP

Collision damages US aircraft carrier

Washington: The 52,500-tonne US aircraft carrier Coral Sea and an Ecuadorian tanker collided off Cuba on Thursday night. The carrier suffered significant damage to its bow area, a navy spokesman said.

There were no injuries to crew aboard either ship and the vessels steamed under their own power to the US naval base at Guantanamo Bay, on the south-eastern tip of Cuba.

The tanker, the 18,060-tonne Napo, was holed in the bow above the waterline and also sustained damage to its superstructure.

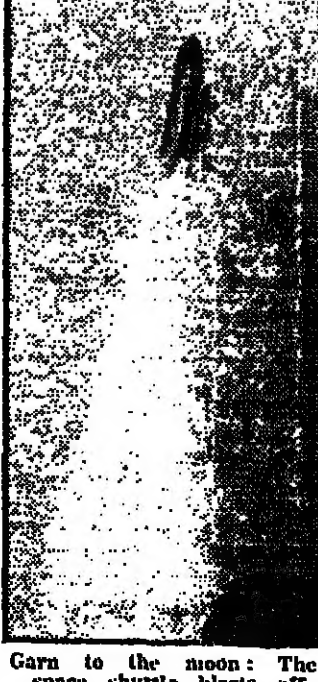
The Coral Sea had been in the Guantanamo Bay area since April 3 for crew training and was conducting flight operations. When the collision occurred, the carrier was at the time of the accident, the navy spokesman said, 11 of the carrier's aircraft were airborne.

borne; they were diverted without incident to Guantanamo Bay. One of its helicopters had just landed on deck when the collision occurred.

At the time of the collision visibility was about seven miles, with scattered clouds at 1,500 feet and waves of five feet.

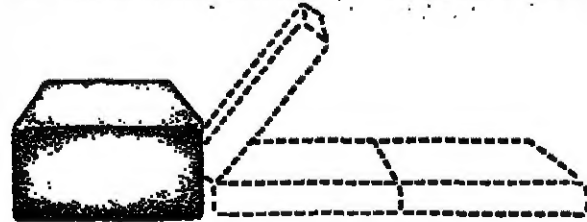
The Coral Sea was carrying 20 F/A-18 fighter-attack planes and about 12 older A-1 attack planes when the accident occurred. It normally carries between 75 and 100 planes, but was not at full complement because the ship was on a training mission.

In addition to bow damage, the Coral Sea also suffered damage to some of its communications and radar equipment. Its starboard also was damaged by the superstructure of the Napo.



Garn to the moon: The space shuttle blasts off

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PM due in Delhi for talks today

From Ajay Bose in New Delhi

THE recent strain on Indo-British ties because of activities by Sikh extremists in Britain is expected to figure in talks between Mrs Thatcher and the Prime Minister of India, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today.

Mrs Thatcher, who is arriving in the Indian capital this afternoon on a brief visit on her way from Colombo, is scheduled to have wide-ranging talks with Mr Gandhi.

British High Commission spokesmen said that although there is no fixed agenda for the talks, Mrs Thatcher is likely to take the opportunity to reassure the Indian government of the efforts by British authorities to contain the extremist problem in Britain.

He pointed out that although there had been bitter controversy in India over the activities and statements by extremists in Britain, Mr Gandhi had expressed his appreciation of the steps taken by the British Government against them.

Mr Gandhi said in parliament this week that the British response to requests by India to take stern action against extremists has been "adequate".

Officials in the High Commission feel that discussions on the issue are likely to be cordial and based on a shared concern of the problem.

Mrs Thatcher is also expected to discuss the Sri Lanka situation with Mr Gandhi and brief him on her talks with the Sri Lanka's President Jayawardene. The High Commission spokesman, however, ruled out any British initiative to resolve the Tamil minority problem in Sri Lanka or mediate the troubled Indo-Sri Lankan relations.

An Indian Foreign Office spokesman said last night that the two prime ministers will initially meet without aides and then be joined by them.

Sri Lanka told it must solve its own domestic problems

Tamil terror tactics draw fire from Thatcher

From Eric Silver in Kandy

Mrs Thatcher has come out strongly against the use of terror by the Tamil minority, while at the same time insisting that Sri Lanka must solve its own communal conflicts.

"The matter of the Tamils is a matter for the Sri Lankan government," the Prime Minister told reporters after opening the \$113 million Victoria Dam near here, Britain's biggest foreign aid project.

"With regard to my own view about terrorism, it has not varied and will not vary," she added.

"Terrorism must never be seen to win. If it does, it is the end of democracy. It is a democracy in Sri Lanka, and I believe that as in Britain the problems must be solved through democracy. Democracy is wide enough to see a solution through democratic means."

Mrs Thatcher contended that Tamils had the same rights as other citizens and should use them to achieve their aims. Officials said she was assumed to have discussed the ethnic issue during two meetings yesterday with President Junius Jayawardene. It only to bring herself up to date on the situation. She said at her press conference that she expected to talk about Sri Lanka when she meets the Prime Minister of India, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today.

Mrs Thatcher would not be drawn by Sri Lankan reporters on her Government's reluctance to help Colombo to eradicate Tamil terrorism, and would say nothing about British arms sales to the government.

In fact, she is encouraging British private

companies to sell Sri Lanka most of its modest requirements, such as gunboats and counter-insurgency expertise.

She did not hesitate to put a partisan gloss on the Victoria Dam scheme, which will increase Sri Lanka's power generating capacity by 30 per cent and provide water for its parched fields.

"I well recall the day when in August 1979, at the Commonwealth Conference in Lusaka I handed your Prime Minister, Mr Premadasa, a note saying that we had decided to give priority in our aid programme to this great endeavour," she said at the opening ceremony in sweltering heat of more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

"When we set our hand to the task of helping you with this development, it was not only because the economists told us the investment was justified. It was because we felt we could with confidence endorse the economic policies your government was committed to pursuing. Our development assistance policy is to support abroad the disciplines we practise at home."

Mrs Betty Boothroyd, the Labour MP for West Bromwich, who was present in a delegation sent by the Anglo-Sri Lankan Parliamentary Group, said that aid for the dam had been approved under the last Labour government when Judith Hart was minister for overseas development.

"If this government had been in power at the time," she said, "this dam would not have been here. She's got a cheek claiming the credit. All she did was sign the paper," she said.

The prime minister said, "that it was our decision."



COUP OF JOY: Sudanese demonstrate their elation at Mr Numeiri's downfall (top) while, above, troops in a lorry maintain a high profile

Sudan parties plan return to civilian rule

Military Council to retain power for one-year transitional period

Khartoum: Representatives of unions and political parties proposed to Sudan's new military rulers yesterday an apolitical caretaker cabinet to administer the country during a one-year transition to civilian rule.

A spokesman for the grouping of unions and parties said their representatives presented the cabinet list at a meeting with members of the Military Council yesterday morning. The 15-member council now running the country is led by General Abdul-Rahman Swaredhab, who led the coup to remove President Numeiri last Saturday. The council will retain its hold on ultimate power during the transition.

The civilian negotiators disclosed on Thursday night that the council had accepted their demand that the transition be limited to one year and that the caretaker cabinet during this period consist of civilians with only one military member, the defence minister.

Unions and parties "are proposing to the Military Council a cabinet composed of civilians with no political affiliations," a spokesman for the group said.

This was agreed by the unions and the parties because we all realise that the caretaker government has very serious problems to tackle, and the absence of any differences on political ideology will make their job slightly easier during the transitional period," the spokesman said.

After the transition, he said, the unions and parties expect democratic elections to lead to full civilian rule.

Gen. Swaredhab was named commander-in-chief and defence minister by Mr Numeiri on March 18, a few days before he left for a visit to the US. The coup, coming after a general strike against food price increases and other government actions, prevented the President's return. Mr Numeiri has been in Egypt since the coup.

Officers 'plot to kill Gadafy'

From Herbert Denton in Washington

A DISSIDENT segment of the Libyan military launched two assassination attempts recently against Colonel Moammar Gadafy who responded by executing dozens of officers, according to intelligence reports reaching the Reagan Administration.

A first coup attempt by conservative officers is said to have occurred early last month at a presidential villa outside Tripoli. The reports, which Administration officials are considered reliable, indicated that as many as 15 officers may have been executed in retaliation.

A second attempt, reportedly an assault on a convoy in which the plotters thought Colonel Gadafy was travelling, is said to have taken place within the last two weeks and to have resulted in the execution of at least 60 more officers accused of conspiring in the plot.

Unlike an attempted coup last May, which was led by exiled opponents who had infiltrated Libya, the two reported efforts appear to have been carried out by officers in the 73,000-member Libyan armed forces. It was not clear just how widely this apparent dissatisfaction with Colonel Gadafy's rule had spread.

According to reports, the attacks and executions have been kept secret inside Libya, the public reading of two Tripoli university students last year fuelled open dissent among the thousands of students forced to watch. Two people who participated in the executions were later murdered.

Opposition to Colonel Gadafy from a segment of the Libyan military is believed to be the outcome of a power struggle pitting comparatively moderate military officers against the extremist revolutionary committees, on which Colonel Gadafy has increasingly relied since the coup attempt a year ago.

Although the reports are said to be sketchy, the belief here is that the military officers involved may have felt that this was their last chance before being totally eclipsed by the radical committees.

Colonel Gadafy has sought to build a military force made up of the radicals as a counter to the professional armed forces.

US and foreign analysts here say Colonel Gadafy's suspicions of the professional military were manifest after an attempt by officers on his life several years ago. He then turned to the East Germans, who helped create his personal security force.

Speaking to the American and European correspondents invited to Tripoli on Wednesday, Colonel Gadafy avoided internal problems and used the occasion to warn President Reagan against interfering in Sudan, where military forces toppled President Numeiri last Saturday as he was returning from a visit to the US. — Washington Post.

Sikhs put off protest campaign

AMRITSAR, INDIA: The main Sikh party said yesterday it would launch a protest campaign, originally due to start today, unless the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, acceded to its demands by June 1.

In a statement, the Indian Akali Dal also said it would hold a "genocide week" from June 1 to mark the anniversary of the storming of Amritsar's Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine, by troops on June 6 last year.

The Akali Dal secretary, Mr Gurdev Singh, said after a four-hour meeting of top leaders that the postponement of the protest campaign demonstrated the party's goodwill in responding to concessions by the government.

"As a measure of our goodwill, we gave up the time to New Delhi to prove its sincerity."

The postponement was announced amid reports that six people were injured in a shooting incident. No details were available.

The government said on Thursday it would set up a judicial inquiry into anti-Sikh riots triggered by the assassination of Mr Gandhi's mother, a predecessor India by Sikh bodyguards last October.

The meeting yesterday demanded that the probe into the riots, in which more than 2,700 people, mostly Sikhs, were killed, should cover seven states as well as Delhi.

It also sought a relief fund to support Sikhs widowed or orphaned in the riots and the families of those killed in the attack on the Golden Temple.

The Akali Dal has also demanded the release of all gaoled Sikhs and pardons for several hundred Sikh soldiers who mutinied after troops stormed the temple complex to root out militants fighting for a separate Sikh nation in Punjab state.

Mr Gurdev Singh said the party would hold prayers and peace meetings throughout Punjab, where most of India's 15 million Sikhs live, to mark the week beginning June 1.

Minister is warned to tread carefully

From Nicholas Channing-Jones in Jakarta

The visiting Vietnamese Defence Minister was warned yesterday to refrain from making political comments during his stay amid suggestions that Indonesia is inching towards a resumption of diplomatic relations with China.

In a statement, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr Mochtar Kusumastudjaja, said the visit by General Van Tien Dung, who arrived here yesterday, was the result of a long-standing arrangement and expressed the hope that it would result in non-controversial, this somewhat restrained welcome reflected an attempt to prevent embarrassment resulting from the visit so soon after Vietnam's punishing day session of talks with China, which opposes Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea, but made clear there was no prospect of any immediate resumption of such ties. Last December, Indonesia

approved a resumption of direct trade with China and by the Chinese Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, is due in Jakarta later this month.

General Dung has come to Indonesia, the most sympathetic of Vietnam's neighbours in the non-Communist Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), for a six-day visit as the guest of the armed forces chief, General Benny Murtadani. He was accompanied by the commanders of Vietnam's three armed services.

Dr Mochtar visited Vietnam last month. He made clear that recent Vietnamese offers on a settlement of the Kampuchean conflict were not acceptable to Asean countries.

The resumption of Sino-Indonesian relations broken in 1967 two years after a Chinese-backed coup attempt, would be an important step forward in China's efforts to develop its ties with the non-Communist countries of South-East Asia. President Suharto said earlier this week that China would have to renounce support for underground Communist movements in the region before normalisation.

Fire bombs hit airport

TOKYO: Fire bombs forced the closure of Tokyo's international airport at Narita for 90 minutes yesterday, disrupting more than 20 overseas flights which were delayed by up to two hours, airport officials said.

Police said about 13 fire bombs were fired from launchers mounted on two trucks outside Narita.

Five fire bombs were also reported to have fallen on Haneda domestic airport on Tokyo Bay but flight operations there were not affected, airport officials said.

No injuries were reported in either attack. Police blamed leftwing opponents of the construction and expansion of Narita airport, 40 miles north-east of Tokyo. — Reuters

Rusk backs Anzus ties

Wellington: The United States warned Indonesia about 20 years ago that US troops would intervene if New Zealand and Australian forces were attacked in Malaysia, a former secretary of state, Mr Dean Rusk, said in a letter published here yesterday.

Mr Rusk, in a letter to the New Zealand Herald, said he personally delivered the warning.

Australia and New Zealand gave military support to Malaysia during its low-level war with Indonesia from 1963 to 1965.

"It is a matter of record that (the then Indonesian President) Sukarno backed away from his threats, but I do not know what part was played by my statement," Mr Rusk wrote.

— AP.

Black youth shot 'while obeying police'

From Patrick Laurence in Johannesburg

A black youth yesterday told the commission of inquiry into the commission of inquiry into the killing of a black youth by the police on March 21, and eight others who have died in the eastern Cape unrest in the past three weeks.

Disturbances are still occurring in the townships, and two black men were shot dead near Port Elizabeth during clashes with police.

At yesterday's sitting of the Kanneviller commission, Kwanele Bukwa, aged 15, said that he was cycling ahead of the crowd at Langa on March 21 when he saw the two vehicles, known as Caspans, ahead of him. He tried to cycle past to the right of the vehicles but was ordered by a policeman standing on top of one of them to go through the middle. He did so, giving two black power salutes as he went by.

"As I was turning I was shot at," Kwanele said. "The shot hit me on the head. I fell over the bicycle and landed on my right side on the tar."

He paused to show Mr Justice Donald Kanneviller a mark at the back of his head, and grazes over his right shoulder and right eye. They

had been caused by the bullet and his fall, he said.

He told the commission he had no warning shot or warning to disperse. He had earlier identified a bicycle in court as his, recognising it by its raised saddle. "Can I get it back now?" he asked the judge.

After he was shot he lay on the ground, where he said he was kicked twice by a policeman to see whether he was alive. He added: "I lost consciousness when I was kicked for the second time and woke up in the Uitenhage provincial hospital." At the hospital, in a state of shock, he had given the name of a border post near his home as his own, he said.

Earlier, Mr Eric Tembani, aged 48, told the commission that he saw Kwanele being shot. He was himself shot shortly afterwards, and lay on the ground pretending to be dead as more shots were fired.

"I heard the police, speaking a mixture of Zulu and Xhosa, say that those who were lying should be finished off because they might make it plain (what happened) later. He feigned death as a policeman felt along his ribs, lifted his wrist and turned his face upwards to shine a torch in his eyes. "I heard someone saying, 'he's been dead for some time,'" Mr Tembani said.

While lying there, he saw policemen collecting stones and

throwing them among the bodies, he said.

In another development the Uitenhage station commander, Major Gert Kuhn, accused a superior officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Pretorius, district commander of Uitenhage, of telling the commission a "blatant lie" when he told the commission how the police came to be armed only with lethal equipment during the clashes of March 21.

Colonel Pretorius had told the commission that he had

ordered police patrolling black townships to be issued with a full range of riot-control equipment, including tearmoke, rubber bullets, and buckshot.

But Major Kuhn said that on orders from Colonel Pretorius he had issued police at Langa on March 21 with rifles and heavy shotgun cartridges only.

Under cross-examination by a lawyer representing the families of some of the victims, Major Kuhn agreed that Colonel Pretorius had told a "blatant lie."

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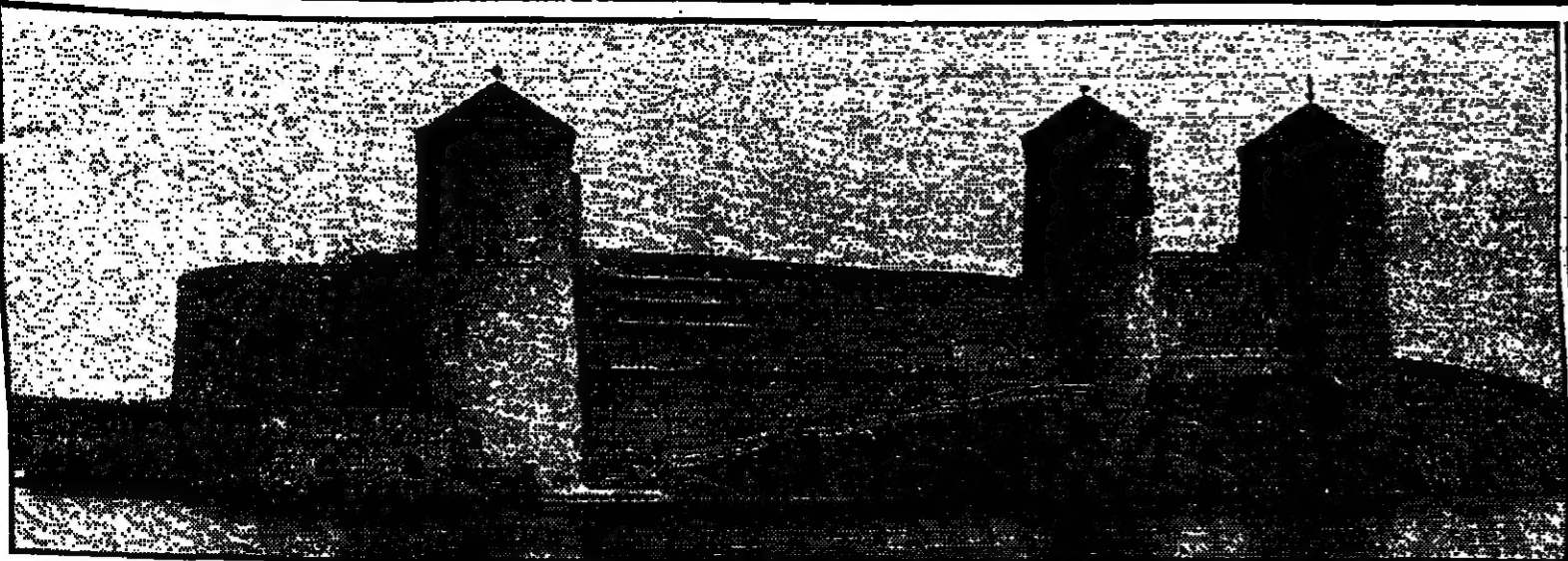
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Olavinlinna — the approaches to Savonlinna, and, (right) salute from a sister ship



This week Travel Guardian goes boating. Alex Hamilton casts off first and heads off into the forested Finnish lakeland

Full steam ahead for Savonlinna

KARJALANPIIRAKKA, kukkakaalekito and graavilohi — piparjuurikermatyt — were among the cheaper items on offer on the Motor Vessel Kuopio. Or, as we would say, Karelian rice parties, cauliflower soup and salt salmon with horseradish.

Everyone is agreed that Finnish is an unusually difficult language, and then they make it worse by running all the words together. It's their privilege, of course, and quite young children seem to have no problem with it, but still.

In the big towns many Finns are polyglot, and in Helsinki there is even a quite large regular sale of new books in English. But in the middle of Finland, where the MV Kuopio and her sister ships ply up and down the lakes by the silent sedge of Soine, the country's largest inland island, you'll hardly hear any pithy Saxon syllables breaking up the sesquipedalian flow. Swedish, which is relatively easy for the English, remains very much a minority second language, and

anyway farmers everywhere are inward looking.

The are extremely hospitable: no service is too much; with coffee and gossip and schnapps they will roll the hours away, but one may have a sense of an underlying wideness for that vast and overwhelming winter when they can burrow deep into their own psyches without interference.

The topography, with all those thousands of lakes and islands, river and forest, is very confusing: an aerial view reveals an absence of pattern that would be ideal for an advanced jigsaw. But reaching Kuopio is simple — you go by plane, and its instruments know the way.

This is not a frivolous and spendthrift suggestion. The Finns themselves make promiscuous use of their domestic air services, which are cheap and efficient. For some, to vanish into Finnair is a daily routine. One man, using a 15-day airpass (\$250) is said to have clocked up 2,000 kms in that time. If you're fussy about which seat, though, be

ready to run across the tarmac. There are no boarding cards, and getting on is often an undignified scramble.

Others complement this grasshopper frenzy with a gentle drift home on the waterway, like the computer analyst who made friends with me on the MV Kuopio, who, having eased his firm's operations all over the country, was taking three days on the water to Lappeenranta by the Russian border to restore his bytes. The essentials of Finnkeeping, to wit food, strong drink, a bunk and a sauna, are all to be found on board.

He could only do this, by the way, between May and August, a time of festivals and dancing and musical events, after which the children go back to school, the tourists head south, squirrels harvest their nuts and analysts their business cards for the winter, and the boats come to rest. (When in motion they manage a steady 12 knots.)

Kuopio is a middle-sized town of about 75,000 souls,

who live mainly off timber, milling, textiles and dairy products. Kalakukko, the term for the celebrated local fish pie, seems to be virtually an alternative name for the town, as if one were to call Melton Mowbray Pork Pie. There's good fresh fish in the market, but fishing is not a staple.

It's a university town, with a stress on medicine — 11 of the 12 beds in the foundation hospital were for syphilis, which made a change from the ancient preoccupation with TB and alcoholism — the great runner Kohlemäen is a folk hero, and two football teams share a splendid stadium on a headland. Into its tourist shopwindow it also puts a Lutheran and an Orthodox cathedral, museums stuffed with Karelian relics rescued when that province was ceded to Russia, survivals of the old wooden architecture, modern bus and rail stations and a very tall tower from which you can look ahead to your route across lakeland.

Over the horizon, about the

distance of Bath from London, lies Savonlinna, a resort of water sports and old steamers used as maritime museums. Of camping and entertainments, of international opera in the formidable 18th century stronghold Olavinlinna, and the spa island of Vasrassari. This connects by a wooden footbridge which that night you hope to cross, for the Casino Hotel and dancing at the Kasino opposite.

The MV Kuopio is the largest of seven cruises, ranging in capacity from 30 to 200 people, run by the Röll Laiwat company. There has always been one called Kuopio since the first restaurant boat was launched by a confectioner in 1855. We sailed at 9 am and arrived 12 hours later, having made 12 brief stops on the way, mostly at tiny landing stages. The fare was 160 Finnmarks, children half price.

Our course was the more attractive eastern line of lakes, a countryside of dairy farmers, who look on their forests as a bank and only cut their wood in the bad years, so the granite was festooned

with a trillion larches, pine and birch — to mention only the number visibly reflected in the water like rippled chrome. Sometimes we passed jetties poking through the reeds like crozier fingers, with the maroon walls of a sauna beyond, and perhaps a glimpse of the house itself among trees on the higher ground above. The only breeze was the one we made ourselves, the only movement in the water our own wake, though towards the end it became appreciably rougher, with waves at least three inches high. That was as fierce as it ever got, said the helmsman.

Not a lot happened. At Kuopio we sailed, and sister ship, a Kuopio girl told me she'd picked this trip as a 21st birthday treat. From Lehtelähti to Karvio we fed on Captain's Escalope and Baked Curds of Beef with Hot Arctic Jam. At Karvio two of the crew threatened to throw the barmaid into the water, and then did so. Between Viikari and Piiro it rained.

People read, drank in the bar, played Space Invaders. At Heinavesi 40 Italians got off into buses to take them to a monastery in the woods. At Pohjoisjärvi a delicious Alsatian greeted his homecoming mistress, preparing the landing stage for her by scattering the cows on it into the forest. Seagulls followed us, not realising that the law forbids the throwing of scraps overboard. There were wild duck, too, and fighter-bombers at 3,000 feet, but no other winged creatures. My computer friend talked to me about the problems of siting the 150th anniversary of the national epic, Kalevala, in 1985, since none of the obvious places like Imatra and Joensuu were keen to erect a fake medieval village to draw tourists. Perhaps, he concluded drily, they should try Estonia — the Kalevala had been collected from many sources.

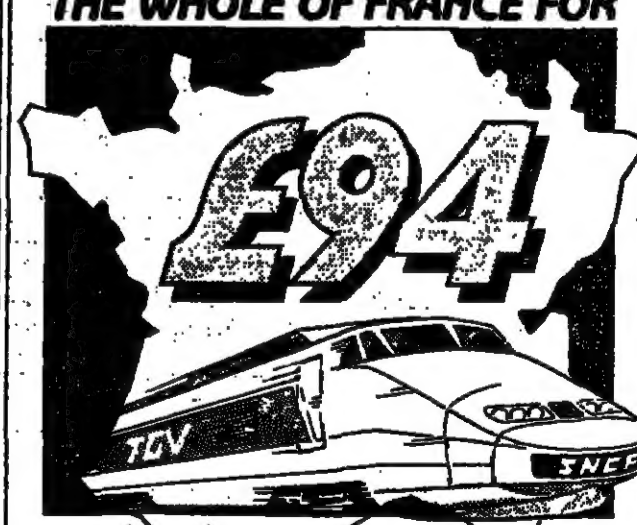
After such a day, the sudden emergence in the dusk of the awesome bulk of Olavinlinna towering above the bows made a terrific impact. So, in a softer way, did the Casino and the Kasino. I recommend the dancing there, even if you haven't a word of your partner's language. It's not only that to the strains of a hurdy-gurdy they do such old backwoods Finnish foot-stomping as the *jenka*, but it's an old custom of the country that when invited to dance, the women will never refuse.

Briefcase:

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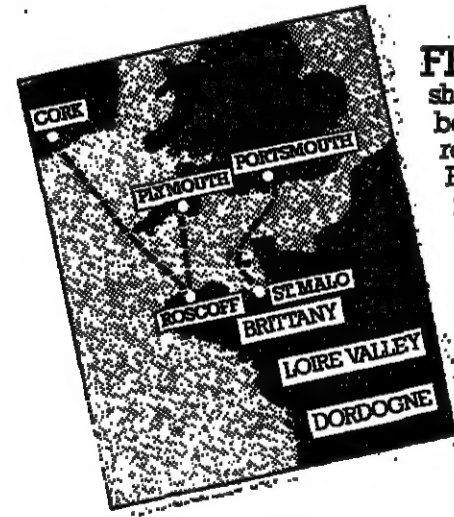
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Entertainments continue on page 23

WEEK-END ARTS

John Schlesinger's new film is an all-American spy story based on the real life treachery of two West Coast school chums. John Cunningham met the New York Times reporter, Robert Lindsey, who got the original tale.

ON CLEAR days, blue ocean and red roofs of homes lapping the hill allow residents of the Palos Verdes Peninsula to forget that only 30 miles of freeway keeps Los Angeles at bay. P.V. people began settling in the 1950s, bringing only college degrees and go-for-it ambition. Careers boomed in aerospace and defence: their success turned a slice of southern California into a Mediterranean look-alike.

An instant affluent community. It ran up the flag for American values, as if to root and reassure itself. And as the kids began to make the same commuter journeys as their parents — leaving behind the beach and fooling around and drugs — Robert Lindsey, neighbour and newspaperman, reflected that the social transplant process was working for another bit of the U.S. Now, he emphasises, Palos Verdes is not the sort of place where spies grow up.

But two did, and they came from apple-pie homes on the hill. Christopher Boyce and Daulton Lee were altar-boy buddies from Roman Catholic families. Now they are serving respective sentences of 40 years and life for leaking thousands of CIA documents on the US spy satellite system to the Russians. Lindsey, LA bureau chief of the New York Times, covered the trial in 1977.

The events grip partly because of the ease with which Lee, addict and drug dealer, was able to seduce, undetected, for two years, documents to Soviet officials in the Russian Embassy in Mexico. These he had obtained from Boyce, who worked as a security clerk for a firm handling CIA technical contracts. But what really gave the United States gut agony over the affair was not the amount of damage done — because the public never told the full extent of



CAGING THE FALCONER: End of the road for Timothy Hutton as Christopher Boyce in John Schlesinger's *The Falcon And The Snowman*

Buddy can you share a crime?

the information betrayed — but the fact that two nice boys next door could turn against Uncle Sam.

There have now been three attempts to unravel this conundrum. The trial proceedings were reported as they happened. Then Robert Lindsey wrote what became a US best seller about the affair. Now a film, using the same title as the book and based on it, *The Falcon And The Snowman* — has been made, and opens in London next week.

To coincide with the release, the sequel Lindsey wrote — *The Flight of The Falcon* — is being published here (Penguin £2.50). The 50-year-old newspaperman became involved with the spies through visits to them in detention. But the saga did not end with sentences being handed out. In January 1980, Boyce escaped from the maximum security jail at Lompoc, California, and was free for 19 months.

Lindsey, who is neither an intellectual nor a reporter much given to emotion, says he would not have considered writing the book without being urged by an editor at Simon and Schuster. The snowman of the title refers to Lee's use of cocaine; the falcon to Boyce's obsession with training hawks. The book sold over one million copies. And though Boyce did not co-operate over the sequel, he did for a time put in daily phone calls, while a fugitive, to Lindsey.

All three accounts of the electronic intelligence gathering scandal — trial, book and film — deal with sub-

stantially the same material. Boyce, the seminary dropout, gets a job with an organisation handling defence contracts; his father is an ex-FBI administrator, so he is posted to a top secret communications vault. He doesn't like the Church, now he decides he doesn't like the State when — thanks to a misrouted telex — he discovers CIA tampering with elections in Australia.

Boyce's disillusion — even for a guy in his mid-20s watching the Watergate proceedings on the box — is naive. And dangerous: he persuades his best friend, Daulton Lee, who is on the run in Mexico following narcotics charges, to sell top secret documents to the Russian Embassy in Mexico City. Boyce is as simple as Lee is devious: Lee later threatens to tell his father if he ends the arrangement; the Russians refused to let him off the hook; and the pair finally are exposed after Lee

is picked up, wrongly, on a murder charge.

The two young men still continue to perplex the American public. Lindsey, who says that Lee would have nothing to do with the book when he found there was no money in it for him, says that he has now become a model prisoner. "He went up before the parole board a few weeks ago, but he was rejected. It will be 1995 or 2000 before they reconsider his case. In prison, he became an assistant to the chaplain; now he's a dental technician. He's got his act together; he's cleansed himself of the drugs thing."

Like several of the Watergate participants, Lee has found religion. Boyce, after despising politics, now wants to be exchanged for an American agent held by the Russians, and to be allowed to settle in Moscow. The Russians apparently want nothing to do with this. Lindsey admits that he was

Schlesinger's film (70 per cent true to the book, says Lindsey) a curious reluctance to moralise. You will, from either account, have to come to the conclusion yourself that Boyce and Lee were a pair of shits.

They managed to turn themselves into romantic heroes: Boyce, particularly, because of his prison escape and the way in which the film uses his interest in falcons as a metaphor for freedom which, it is implied, is justly his. Lee is shown to have all the indications of a latter-day hippy, existing in the Seventies on the spent values of the Sixties drug culture. Even Lindsey admits that he was "just a low-level mobster."

Of Lee's motives, Lindsey says: "His was the generation of the rip-off and, to Daulton, the Russians were just another victim to be ripped off." Boyce, he says, rejected his father's strict notions of patriotism and nationalism; he wasn't a Vietnam veteran, but the effect of US involvement in that conflict made him cynical about interventionist America. And in the end, he appears to blame Boyce Senior. For in his first book, he writes: "When he rebelled against the CIA and his country, perhaps Chris was also rebelling against the man who ruled the home in Palos Verdes where he had grown up."

Even that is put forward speculatively, and might not be at the heart of it. For if the trial left unanswered questions — how much did the USSR learn about the operation of the Rhyolite spy satellites in return for \$77,000 — both the book and the film are unsatisfactory. Too like *Cold Blood* for *The Killing Fields*, which deal with specifically American experiences, there is, in the Boyce/Lee case, something to be distilled about the lack of moral centre in the United States.

Maybe it is too obvious for Americans to spot. But the betrayal, not of country, but of friend by friend, glares through both book and movie. The way in which the best of companions corrupted each other, even as that American ideal of same-sex friendship. If Lindsey or Schlesinger had been searching for an alternative title, they might well have considered *The End of Buddydom*.

AN EYE ON THE SPIES — reporter Robert Lindsey. Picture by Simon Grosset



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Next week's tv and radio

Monday

Three Up, Two Down (BBC 1, 8.30). One of three brand new sitcoms. Michael Elphick has pretty limp material as an "aging oil" unemployed and anxious to play Mary Poppins to his new grandson; but there's a rival twist and pearls

granny. Mann's Best Friend (C4, 8.30). Latest lovable eccentrics from the Last of The Summer Wine stable. A timid disciplinarian with the steel-capped toes, Fulton Mackay, tries to order a dilapidated rambling house where the landlord plays Scarlet Pimpernel, to captive animals, and host to a gormless pet criminal, a lady of easy virtue and a bevy of Chinese waiters. Hard core whimsy.

Them And Us (BBC 2, 10.15). As a boy in Leeds, Tony Harrison studied Caesar's Gallic wars in the attic while his mates went to Tarzan films. For Arena, he explains how he has been caught between two worlds ever since. Becoming a poet and classical scholar was a slow-burning revenge on the English teacher which refused to let him read aloud because of his accent. Ironically, he now speaks a fair approximation of "received pronunciation" himself.

Tuesday

Isaura The Slave Girl and Fantasia (C4, 8.30). Double bill of soap opera (which begins on Monday) and variety show from Brazil. Isaura is unashamed melodrama — Cinderella meets Mandingo — about a black-bee in plantation owner ("the only language they know is the lash"), his wastrel son, and an orphaned white girl who plays the piano like an angel. Fantasia is a musical comedy in the kitchen clad like Scarlett O'Hara.

Intimate Agony (C4, 9.0). Genital herpes threatens Paradise Island (a resort where even the cockroaches dine in pairs. Idealistic young doctor clashes with ruthless property developer (Robert Vaughan). Ludicrous but watchable.

Wednesday

Pina Bausch's Bluebeard (C4, 9.0). Deliberately ugly, desperate puppet ballet. Bluebeard and wife, dance in intermittent frenzy, vying for sexual supremacy. A funeral conga line of dissipated partygoers joins them; the women, with gaunt white faces and flowing black hair, hang their heads, necks bared for the axe.

Thursday

Pookiemacknaburger in Hell Bent (C4, 9.0). Pookie's mix of rock 'n' comedy, a good five-minute guest spot but stretched for a six-part

series. Here they take on Heavy Metal, borrowing freely from Denis Wheatley and Straw Dogs. In an old abbey converted into a recording studio, Iron Lung attempt to raise the devil; at the local inn, goats blood pours from the beer pumps, and on television a Sesame Street puppet explains that C is for chainsaw.

Friday

The World About Us (BBC2, 7.45). Ron Pickering reports on a kind of Duke of Edinburgh scheme of the Wild West where young hoodlums are turned into suitable candidates for Marlborough commercials. Delinquents learn to break wild muskies on a ranch — while they themselves are tamed by the love of a good horse. It seems to work — less than 20 per cent return to crime.

Home To Roost (ITV, 8.30). Best of the new sitcom stars John Thaw, cast against type, as a man abandoned by his family, grown bitter and bacheloretish, who is saddled with a teenage son he hasn't seen for seven years. Determinedly unsentimental.

Helen Oldfield

Radio

Today: Where to Light A Candle is To Say a Prayer (Radio 4, 3.30 pm). Repeat of a series of interviews about an Orthodox congregation in a sleepy Devonshire village, and the paths by which these men and women came to this "sacred and romantic" traditional liturgy.

Tomorrow: New Premises (Radio 3, 5.30 pm). Start of a 10-part series of this international arts review: the last series both covered some unusual themes with considerable intelligence and featured some beguiling spoofs. Sir John Oldcastle (Radio 3, 7 pm). In this literary curiosity, Michael Drayton and other playwrights set the reputation of Sir John, the model for Shakespeare's Falstaff, to rights.

Monday: Summer Passions (Radio 4, 8.15 pm). Black writer Michael Faber tells a play about the 17-year-old from the "good" home, and his secret life in the drug world.

Tuesday: A Sideways Look At... (Radio 4, 9.30 pm). Extraordinary how often the inventive Anthony Smith makes us look in a new way at some of our accepted notions: start of new series.

Wednesday: After Henry (Radio 4, 6.30 pm). Granny, middle-aged widow and teenage daughter in a new series, with Prunella Scales, Joan Sanderson and Gerry Cowper as the three women.

Val Arnold-Forster

The rattle of Medway

IT WAS an endearing moment in C.A.T.S. Eyes (TVS) when Rosalyn Lander, a promising graduate of Dame Penelope Keith's academy for English roses with toffee noses, looked us straight in the eye and said: "Since we joined the EEC, the Thames estuary and the Medway towns and ports have become the crossroads of European crime, espionage and terrorism. There's more snot — yes, Fiona, snot — in the lay-bys and cafes round here than in the whole of London, Paris and Amsterdam put together."

Of course there is dear. Some of you may feel that Miss Lander is pumping away with her size five shoe to try to give us a sense of the vicious glamour monopolised too long by Miami. The Medway towns and thereabouts loom rather large for TVS, falling as they do within its franchise. Never a dull moment in Brighton Mischief is their motto. See Sutton Valence and die. How the palms puddle with cold sweat at the very names round there. Bobbing, Cooling and Mucking. Womensould, Ringsould and Pluck's Gutter. Sandwich (there's many a name surprise in a sandwich) and Meopham (the terror of radio announcers). Ghostly Gravesend.



Jill Gascoine in C.A.T.S. Eyes

Banded together in this lawless area to do good, or the best they can, are secret agents Leslie Ash, for cheek, Rosalyn Lander for class, and Jill Gascoine for "Police procedure, something of which you seem to know nothing about." Which just goes to show what doing time in The Gentle Touch does for your English.

Kate R. Barrett had one of those brief but rewarding roles where you are murdered in the first reel and turn up in the morgue looking marvellous. An equally brief tenure was enjoyed, and I choose my words, by Christopher Royle as a Russian agent. He spoke disintegrated English: "I haf a leetle barred too snare," creaked a good deal because

he laughed in a leather jacket and generally had such a good time that he got blown up. But into this world that we are not put into this world to enjoy ourselves.

Someone connected with C.A.T.S. Eyes, probably the writer Terence Feeley, feels misty-eyed about The Avengers. It has a dash of the same camp humour, they do not jest, poison in jest, no offence if the world. I assume, after an incredulous glance that the girls' Oxford clothes are also intended as a joke.

Vita Sackville-West had a black patch over one eye and looked game for anything. Zillah, named after the housekeeper in Wuthering Heights, had a frightful temper like almost everyone in that book. You could tell straight away you were among a better class of dog altogether. Most of us didn't know there was a Zillah in Wuthering Heights. Vita and Zillah's owner, 74-year-old Elizabeth Peet, once had a fox terrier called Aphra Behn.

Michael Foot, of course, has a Tibetan Terrier called Disraeli. A. E. Mathew once had a couple of dogs called Sir Norman Birkett and Charlie the Bastard. Dorothy Parker had a dog, name unspecified, which she claimed caught a social disease

from a lamp-post. One sighs does one not. You can feel the social tone going right down the plughole. Richmond dogs set a standard to which the rest of us can only aspire.

Just Another Day's Richmond Park (BBC 1) was probably the most charming of the series. Sally Carter ("This is Emma. Come on Victoria!") was feeding squirrels there: "It's a lovely occasion when you have the time. And the nuts." Corporal Charlie Hankins of the Black Watch, who belts along in a bathchair and a bonnet at an amazing pace, was playing the bagpipes to the deer. Peter Hammond was attracting beetles with rotten fruit. Most people would prefer to repel beetles but not Mr Hammond: "Without beetle India would be a foot deep in excrement in five years."

The wet wind made a squaky sound in the trees. Charlie Hawkins whizzed off like a deer hearing the bagpipes. Lovers, oblivious in each other's arms, were reminded their park was closing. Vita Sackville-West made herself comfortable as Mrs Peet delicately put it, and left the park to darkness and the dotted deer.

BATH

Hugo Cole

Bedrich Smetana's The Kiss

THE success of the Bartered Bride has always worked against the revival of Smetana's other village operas. The Kiss and The Secret. The first of these is as tuneful, goes deeper into the psychology of its main characters, and is more closely organised — in fact, it lies halfway between musical comedy and through-composed lyric opera in which may lie the main reason for its neglect.

Bath Opera's modest but ingenious production was given in a theatre far too small for the volume of sounds produced: the full and highly-coloured orchestration ensured that few of the words came through and little enough of some of the singers; but the work still made its musical and dramatic points strongly and clearly.

The widower Lukas hopes to marry his old love Vendulka, but she, fearing that the spirit of his dead wife would be offended, won't kiss him until they are

well and truly married. Lukas, furious, gets drunk and holds the girl and her family up to ridicule for the whole village. Vendulka, in her shame, decides to join the local smugglers, but all troubles are quickly sorted out at the end of the second act.

Much of the humour lies in the fact that the lovers are a sort of village Beatrice and Benedick, quick-tempered and quick in repartee, so that the romantic love duets are interspersed with furious quarrels.

Vendulka's respect for the dead wife's memory which lies behind her obstinacy gives the drama a deeper perspective, while the villagers are witnesses to much of the action, so that "public opinion" itself becomes the main character, as in Peter Grimes.

Gillian Slater and David Edwards gave strong and assured performances as the lovers, both voices with the smooth legato needed for the lyrical roles, the former with some fine and ringing top notes.

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Gerald Larner

CBSO/ Turnovsky

EIGHT Slavonic Dances can sound like a lot of Slavonic dances. But they don't have to. There is a whole variety of textural inspiration in Dvorak's orchestration and no end of colour subtleties for anyone who cares to uncover them.

Surprisingly, for a conductor who specialises in Czech music, Martin Turnovsky did not seem to be very interested in such details. The priority of his was the rhythmic impetus, which is certainly of primary importance but which can be sustained without distorting the balance and without obscuring the contrapuntal sub-plot. It is a bold way of doing it and it is rewarding, up to a point.

He conducted the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in a similarly forceful and unlovely performance of Mahler's Symphony No 102 in 3 Flat Major. In this case the treatment was more beneficial to the music: for the most part it is not a lovely work, and does have a particularly forceful first movement, which was taken at an exhilaratingly high pace on this occasion. The disadvantage with that sort of approach comes in the slow

movement with its highly decorated melodic line and the consequent problems of ensemble between woodwind and strings as they attempt to interpret all those little notes in the same way and at the same time. Unanimity was not complete here.

Bearing all this in mind, Martin's Double Concerto — which, like Bartok's Divertimento but more so, is such an unhappy anticipation of the European tragedy of 1939 — ought to have been entirely appropriate to the last movement.

Turnovsky's way of making music. But he surprised us again, this time by presenting the authentic sound — with its distinctive blend of piano and string colouring — as a peculiarly tame effect. It might be that the conflict between the two orchestras was not clear enough, a matter of texture again rather than expression, but the performance carried little meaning until its discovery of Martin's climactic (though dubious) collocation in the last movement.

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WEEK-END PEOPLE

Milk goes sour down on the farm

DIDCOT'S black plumes were hanging dirty laundry on the sky but further north the sun had torn holes in the cloudbase over Abingdon. From Dunmore Farm, near Abingdon, a rich swathe of land pricked the eyes, rolling towards Hinksey and Matthew Arnold country.

Hans Kogel posed beside the For Sale notice somewhat ruefully, as if he had stepped in the ultimate cow-pat. He has, for 24 years he has been headman at Dunmore Farm. Last week he lost his job and the dairy farm went on the market, both victims of the Common Market milk quotas imposed a year ago.

A couple of other local farms have already closed. At 59, Kogel is not optimistic about finding alternative work. He will not be surprised if the farm becomes a builder's yard.

"Our farmer was given his quota and from there it went downhill," he said. "We had to get rid of some cows but we were still 500 litres a day above our quota. We had to cut down on the concentrate feed, but it was no good. There was nothing he could do."

The 300 acre dairy farm is one of the 1,450 in England and Wales which, it was announced this week, have bowed to the inevitable and taken compensation in order to cut Britain's milk quota by one million tonnes a year. Their quotas are to be redistributed among other herds.

"The Government always wanted more milk," he said. "They said produce as much as you can. The worst part of it is that

this country is not self-sufficient in milk. It is only because of the EEC that we are having to import milk."

While the small dairy farmers can pick up golden handshakes from a £50 million compensation fund, hundreds of skilled farm labourers are receiving pitances. A new report by the House of Commons select committee on agriculture calls for a comparable compensation scheme.

Kogel, a direct employee, believes that he has received a fair settlement. But the most vulnerable farm workers are the army of self-employed such as Dunmore Farm's only other worker, a tractor driver who after 20 years' service is not entitled to redundancy pay.

"I suppose I am lucky," said Kogel. "I have got my own house. If I had been in a tied cottage I don't know what I would have done."

Twelve months ago he bought his house, on the nearby Dunmore Estate, in order to be closer to his work. The farm was poised to expand. "We were going to go up from 115 cows to 150 this year and have a new milking parlour. We were going to replace machines that were wearing out. We were averaging 5,000 litres a day. Then it was cut to around 1,700."

The farm produced a little corn, but turning it over to crops was not viable. Nor was beef production. "It was too late. You couldn't have got a regular income and the banks wouldn't stand for it any more."

Kogel was brought up on his family's small farm near Stuttgart. During the war, fate consigned him to a

small prisoner-of-war camp in Banbury, where he worked on the land and met the future Mrs Kogel. He opted to stay. "We decided to get married and work on a farm near Witney. In those days it was the only way to get a house—a tied cottage."

At first, he worked seven days a week for £5. Today the minimum wage is £3 for 40 hours, plus overtime. Until recently he was averaging a 57-hour week, beginning at 6 am. "Even then, very often, the day was not finished, especially in September and October when there's a big calving. You don't get paid for that."

"We have had to work Christmas Day and Boxing Day. It's not like factory workers, who go on strike if the temperature drops below 70. In the winter three years ago everything was frozen up. It took me until dinner time to get the machines going."

He doesn't blame his employer. "He was a pretty good farmer and he looked after his staff." Nor is he bitter about the efforts of the shrinking National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, recently subsumed by the TGWU. "The union has done a fair bit, but the problem is that not everyone is in the union."

Why did he stick it for so long? "I was always employed. I like the outdoor life—I could never see myself in a factory. In later years I was glad I stayed on the farm, with these millions out of work. I thought I would be safe to the end of my days."

KOGEL — quota victim. Picture by E. Hamilton West



Manchester Guardian

1935

APRIL 13: The Prince of Wales broadcast an appeal last night on behalf of King George's Jubilee Trust. He wished, he said, to make it clear that this was not an appeal for charity. The trust would provide more and better facilities for the recreation and guidance of the younger generation, encourage the cultivation of abilities, craftsmanship and all the other interests and activities that make for mental and physical fitness. "From my own experience," said the Prince, "I know the need for this, and I have seen the vast difference in outlook, both in body and mind, between the children who have enjoyed these advantages and those who have not."

APRIL 15: Berlin, April 14. Reference to a remark made by General Luderbach in the interview he gave to Reuter for his 70th birthday was made by Dr Niemöller, the "fighting pastor" of Dahlemburg, in his sermon to-day.

"At a time when a 70-year-old German general," the pastor said, "can boast that Germany is the country which has freed itself most from Christianity, and a Nazi party regional leader can call the Bible 'trash' it is the duty of Christians to rise up and meet the situation with all their powers."

Prayers were again offered for pastors in concentration camps, and Dr Niemöller informed his congregation that again this Sunday no church bells were being rung in Confessional churches throughout Germany as a sign of sorrow for the imprisoned pastors.

APRIL 16: Berlin, April 15. The German Government has informed the Swiss Government in a vigorous manner that it refuses to release Herr Berthold Jakob, the German journalist, who has now been transferred from the notorious Columbia House (the quarters of the secret police) and is lodged in Moabit prison. Herr Jakob will be charged with treason.

An authorised statement issued this afternoon declared that the German authorities have made detailed inquiries into the evidence of the Swiss Government that Jakob was decoyed... from Strasbourg to Basle, and has been kidnapped and brought over the frontier in a motor-vehicle, and find nothing to prove that any German official quarter was involved directly or indirectly with the proceedings on Swiss soil.

APRIL 17: Our London Correspondent has been given to few men to compose their autobiography both on film and on paper. But Cherry Kearton has made of the story of his life both a book and a picture. A naturalist and a writer, his books have clearly many things to remember, and today (April 16) at a luncheon at the Savoy before the private showing of his picture the author was vividly reminiscent.

In 1904 he made the first flight over London—in a dirigible with no cabin. It was carried away, and though at 14,000 feet blood streamed from his nose he continued to turn his camera.

APRIL 18: The Postmaster General, Sir Kingsley Wood, announced in the House of Commons yesterday the personnel and terms of reference of the committee which he has set up to consider the future of broadcasting. The committee's terms of reference are:—

To consider the constitution, control, and financing of the broadcasting service in this country, and report and advise generally on the conditions under which this service, including broadcasting to the Empire, television, and the system of wireless exchanges (the system by which households are supplied with programmes), may be centrally receiving stations should be conducted after December 31, 1936. . . .

Spokes in the wheels of Empire

SOME historians argue that the hallmark of doomed empires was their inability to feed their populations—i.e. to make their milk-goats run on time. This was not true of the British Empire, which even in tempestuous Malaya was able to serve up milk with strawberry and chocolate favour at the Army School in Kuala Lumpur.

The truth is that the British only realised the game was up when their subject races began to beat them at cricket.

This view does not chime

perfectly with the conclusion of Brian Lapping, author and executive producer of End of Empire, a 14-part Granada series beginning on Monday. He believes that the ball was set rolling by Rho-sevelt, who put Churchill's cigar out of joint by insisting on a joint wartime declaration expressing the hope that self-government would be restored to those who had been forcibly deprived of it.

To the colonies this meant only one thing. In the next few months they goggled at the spectacle of bloody British highlands, stamps akimbo,

conceding Singapore to a quarter as many Japanese. After that, the Empire's wicket looked decidedly sticky.

The series had been a five-year labour of love for Lapping, who despatched production teams to parts that once only gumboots reached. At home, he raced the Grim Reaper to record the recollections of the saga's key figures.

"We had been told the Japanese couldn't fly at night, something to do with their eyes... It was their first eleven," recalls the gun-

nery officer of the ill-fated battleship Prince of Wales in the introductory episode.

Lapping charts his own interest to schoolboys. It was while working for the Guardian in the 1930s that he witnessed the allies leaching red at first hand. A reporter specialising in Commonwealth affairs, he had covered a succession of constitutional conferences.

James Cameron wrote that when the British said "Never" they meant pretty damned quick. Did Lapping acquire the same antennae? He replied that it was when Jim Callaghan, whose catchphrase was "Never say never."

To check for generation gaps, every self-contained episode has been shown to schoolchildren. But had the series departed from the official version? For instance, in the Malayan episode, did he know that the Communist leader, Chin Peng, had wreaked 10 years of havoc only after being refused a loan by his British wartime allies to set up a bicycle shop?

Lapping began phoning his researchers to no avail. But yes, he had unearthed new material. "I am absolutely certain that in January 1956 Sir John Harding, the Governor of Cyprus, offered Archbishop Makarios terms that could have led to Enosis. They certainly provided for self-determination for the people of Cyprus in the not-too-distant future."

Makarios had consulted General Grivas ("the most mistrustful person on God's earth") who, convinced that a deal was imminent, had for the first time allowed himself to be photographed. "And Makarios turned it down. I cannot think about it without being horrified. Everything that followed has gone wrong."

End of Empire by Brian Lapping is published by Granada, £14.95.

LAPPING — the game was up. Picture by Frank Martin

Great hunter shows them the way

THE indefatigable Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal (76) was the most hunted man in London this week. He had survived concentration camps and death threats, but would he survive the media? It soon became clear that he would talk them under the table.

Ambushed by a slaving pack of newsmen during a break in the Fifth International Sakharov Hearing, he calmly threw a bone to each. These were documents juxtaposing Jewish caricatures published in Nazi Germany and more recently in the Soviet Union. The latter, he said, were designed to divert the attention of Russia's restless provinces. "There is only one difference: they call it anti-Zionism," he said.

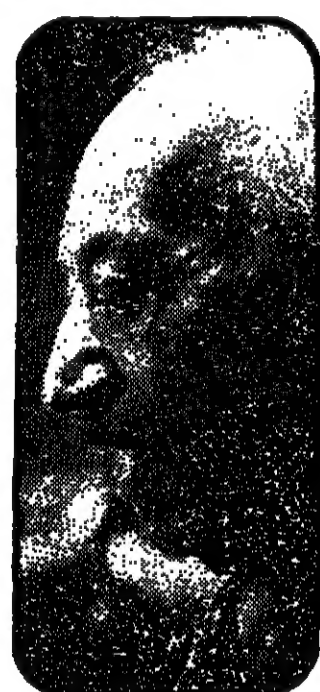
I asked him how he rated the chances of the Soviet Union opening its archives on Nazi war criminals. He said they had cooperated during the Nuremberg Trials, since when it had suited them to let their people believe that "big criminals are living in western countries."

Soviet interest picked up recently after several hundred cases came to light of Russians, Ukrainians and Balts living in the United States, he said. American investigators had been shown vaults of documents in Moscow. He added enigmatically: "But, as the saying goes, the mountain burns the mountain."

The mountain of the moment is Josef Mengele, the camp doctor of Auschwitz. Did he really sew up President Stroessner's hare lip? Had he found a cure for cancer? (In 1952 Wiesenthal reported that Mengele had stomach cancer.)

"I must tell you that he is alive," he said. "His nephew asked him two weeks ago to surrender."

He is insistent that, if found, Mengele should be tried in West Germany, pre-



WIESENTHAL — on the foothills of the Mengele mountain

erably Frankfurt. "We have two new generations since the war and so many denials of the Holocaust."

Wiesenthal then mentioned a visiting German professor who met Mengele in Assenau about 10 years ago. The Angel of Death had protected that he had selected Auschwitz victims for life and therefore deserved a Nobel prize. "This will be his defence line. What he will say about the experiments I don't know."

But with the clamour in the West to release elderly war criminals would a court pass anything other than a token sentence on a 74-year-old? "The trial is more important than the verdict," he replied emphatically. "The 74-year-old hustled off to sock it to another waiting audience."



PAINIQUEO — forced into service in Santiago

Cries from the heart

THE extermination of aboriginal people is another holocaust that hardly happened, exciting little comment. The removal of stumpy natives who stand in the way of progress has in the main been received with quiet relief.

The story of the Mapuche Indians of Chile might serve for almost any tribal minority, except that their unique distinction was to have resisted Inca expansion. They still reject the idea that the "pacification" at the end of the 19th century represented a defeat. A million strong, the Mapuche are the largest indigenous minority in Chile.

Their recovery of land under Salvador Allende was rapidly reversed in the Pinochet coup, which unleashed bloody reprisals against Mapuche communities. In 1979 a decree authorised the splitting up of their reserves and the "liquidation of the Indian communities." A right-wing death squad has been energetically carrying out the letter of the law. Sofia Painiqueo, a Mapuche from southern Chile, arrived in London this week for a British tour to describe their plight. She played a leading role in helping to set up Mapuche cultural centres, a forum for Indian opposition. Until a few months ago she worked as a domestic servant in Santiago, a common predicament for Indians in the city.

Through an interpreter, she explained that she was brought up in a traditional family, the eldest of five children. Supported by the sale of the family's produce, she managed to complete her studies, ending up in the Institute for Agricultural Development. However the need to fund her brothers' and sisters' education forced her to become a servant.

"I couldn't tell my mother because in Mapuche society there is no exploitation of one person by another. He wouldn't have given permission, I said I was staying at a friend's house and helping with the business. I stayed at the house for three working hard, but this was different. The only thing I did was cry and work."

Tomorrow she will be addressing a conference at women in Latin America at London University. Student Union are taking part in a workshop in the After Columbus conference at the Commonwealth Institute (Further details from Survival International, 01-639 3267).

BIRTHDAYS

TODAY: Samuel Beckett, playwright, 79; John Braine, author, 68; Claude Cheysson, foreign minister, France, 65; Alan Clark, MP, historian, under secretary of state for employment, 57; Alan Dewar, Scottish Labour MP, 56; Edward Fox, actor, 48; Gary Kasperov, chess grand master, 22; Howard Keel, actor, 66; Jonjo O'Neill, National Hunt jockey, 33; Margaret Price, operatic soprano, 44.

TOMORROW: Julie Christie, actress, 45; Sir John Gielgud, actor, 81; Gerry Gilman, secretary, Society of Civil and Public Servants, 58; Julian Lloyd-Webber, cellist, 34; Loretta Lynn, country singer, 50; David Leslie, rugby footballer, 33; Baroness Masham, novelist, 62; Bishop Abel Muzorewa, president, African National Council, Zimbabwe, 60; Leslie Rees, Bishop of St Albans, 66; Rod Steiger, actor, 60; the Baroness Mary Wambold, philosopher, 61; John Grigg, journalist, biographer, 61; Neville Martin, conductor, 61.

MONDAY: Jeffrey Archer, author, 45; Claudia Cardinale, actress, 48; John Grigg, journalist, biographer, 61; Neville Martin, conductor, 61.

Alan Lister, playwright, 50; Maurice Sharr, vice-chancellor, Leicester, 59; Sir Douglas Wess, former joint head, home civil service, 62; Marty Wilde, rock singer, 46.

TUESDAY: Queen Margrethe of Denmark, archaeologist, 45; Kingly Amis, novelist, critic, 63; Jean Bakewell, broadcaster, 32; John Harvey Jones, chairman, ICI, 61; Spike Milligan, surrealist comedian, writer, 67; Constance Shacklock, operatic mezzo soprano, 72; Dusty Springfield, pop singer, 45; Peter Ustinov, actor, playwright, director, 64.

WEDNESDAY: Lindsay Anderson, film, theatre director, 62; Chris Barber, jazz trombonist, band leader, 55; John Barrett, tennis player, 54; Clare Francis, yachtswoman, broadcaster, novelist, 39.

THURSDAY: Avril Angers, actress, 63; Roger de Grey, principal, City and Guilds of London Art School, 67; Hayley Mills, actress, 39.

FRIDAY: Sue Barker, tennis player, 29; Harold Bird, cricket umpire, 62; Trevor Francis, footballer, 31; Sydney Harpley, sculptor, 86; Sir Thomas Hopkinson, journalist, author, 80; Dr John Horlock, vice-chancellor, Open University, 57; Dudley Moore, actor, musician, 50; Alan Price, pop singer, composer, 63.

BERRSFORD ELLIS — crossing the Celtic divide. Picture by Frank Martin

Heard the one about the Irishman, the Scotsman, Dracula...

IT'S all Alex Haley's fault, said Peter Berresford Ellis, organiser of today's first-ever Celtic Book Fair. Time was when Irish were Irish, Welsh were Welsh, and neither gave a Scotsman's caber about the other. But now, fortified by Roots, they are all intent on scrutinising each others' origins, aided by Manxmen, Cornishmen and Bretons.

Ellis is an Anglo-Irish author with three quills to his arrow. He is Ellis the literary and historical biographer. He is Peter MacLellan, creator of such thrillers as The Judas Battalion and Air-

ship. He is also the fantasy writer Peter Tremayne, who joyfully milks the pantheon of Celtic myths in books like Dracula My Love.

Dracula, he believes, has Irish connections. "The original 19th century novel was written by an Irishman, Bram Stoker. The concepts he wrote about had more to do with Irish folk legend and custom than Transylvania."

It would be surprising if the Count had not sampled Celtic blood. It seems to have gone a long way. Some claim the Celts discovered America before the time of

Jesus. Last year, excavations in France turned up a tablet inscribed in Gaulish-Celtic and dating from the fifth century BC.

"Celtic literature is the oldest in Europe after Greek and Latin," said Ellis. "Celtic languages are spoken by four to five million people throughout the world."

What about the Pygmies, I asked, venturing the belittled view that they were the original Celts, remembered in legends as the Little People who first designed the Irish harp. Ellis thought I was on tricky ground there.

The basic Celtic divide is between Gaelic-Irish, Scottish-Gaelic and Manx — and Brethonic, common to Welsh, Cornish and Bretons. Ellis once lived in St Ives, where the local Irish priest, having mastered Cornish, conducted business on behalf of the town with visiting Breton crabbing boats.

Today's fair at the London Welsh Centre (157-163 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1) is being supported by 60 Celtic language publishers and organisations representing all six languages. Speakers include Dewi Morris Jones of the Welsh Books Council,

best-selling Irish author Donall Mac Amhlaigh, and Bernes An Nall, director of the Breton Cultural Institute. Ellis reports an encouraging response. "We could have held the fair over three days. Having put our toe in the water we will do it next year on a much grander scale."

This might eventually prove embarrassing to the London Book Fair, whose three-day thrash finished on Thursday.

People is written by Stuart Wavell



Inquiry a better solution than another election

The long running row over the Transport and General Workers' Union's shambling general secretaryship election last year has finally erupted into a crisis which reflects upon the reputation of the entire labour movement. Enter (belatedly) Mr George Wright, the moderate narrowly defeated for the top job by "broad left" candidate, Mr Ron Todd, who has been working himself in for the past six months. Calling for a replay, Mr Wright comments on the growing electoral credibility gap: "It is not going to go away. It gets worse by the day." Indeed it does. Rumour, malicious gossip and, prima facie, perfectly sincere complaints, multiply. Evidence of organised ballot rigging in one branch has already been accepted as proven by the union itself. That branch is now under investigation by the Bristol and Avon fraud squad. Elsewhere evidence mounts of quite remarkably high turn-outs in areas like Northern Ireland. Yet it is, apparently, easier for journalists to find people effectively denied a vote than it is to find T & G members who were able to slip their ballot papers into the flimsy cardboard boxes supposedly provided for their safe keeping. The union refuses to release, even to its own members, the details of branch voting figures which are essential to removing genuine worries. Why?

To suggest that Mr Wright, in calling for a new election, is driven by opportunism or is a bad loser is to miss the point. As secretary of the Wales TGWU he is the most prominent union leader in the principality and has substantial status there. By rocking the boat he has endangered his present position and his future career in the union. Mr Wright must have with a bitter sense of grievance and a rational belief that he is on to a winner, to gamble with his future. For he could not easily survive within the union if he lost a re-run election. He may well not survive long as regional secretary anyhow, having broken ranks. Public loyalty to the machine has always been this union's supreme demand.

Mr Moss Evans, the retiring general secretary, continues to display that dogged loyalty. There will, he says, be no re-run of the election and no general inquiry — internal or external. But he will examine individual complaints. Moreover, Mr Evans claims to detect another, politically motivated, counter-conspiracy. It involves an unnamed Tory knight, certain newspapers and unidentified Alliance leaders. If this alleged plot exists its purpose can only be to cast doubt upon the outcome — if favourable to Labour — of the political levy ballots which the law requires of all unions in the coming months. It is hard to accept such a thesis. Just as it is hard to accept the theory put forward by Lord Chapple, who smells one single, central communist conspiracy behind the assorted cock-ups and petty acts of corruption which undoubtedly took place. Yet the Communist Party is unable to orchestrate elections to the board of the Morning Star these days. Can it really fix things in thousands of union branches?

What is easy to accept is that the ramshackle branch ballot system used by the TGWU (most unions use rather similar systems) is wide open to accident and to abuse. Mr George Wright apparently takes that view. He told the Today programme that he opposed inquiry, because "more things may come out." At that is precisely why a forward looking inquiry should now be held. It is important that the new general secretary should take office in June under a cloudless sky. But it is equally important that changes should be made to avoid future crises — both because efficient and honest elections are a good thing in themselves and because (no need for any anti-union plots) the critics and enemies of trade unionism will undoubtedly exploit doubts and fears during the levy ballots. Mr Neil Kinnock is a TGWU sponsored MP. Mr Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, is a former official of the TGWU. So they both have reason (both wide and narrow) to insist that Mr Evans set up an independent inquiry as a matter of urgency. And positively to invite recommendations for a new electoral system — postal or otherwise — which will not continue to give rise to legitimate concern each time it is employed. Who better to take charge of such an exercise than Lord Murray of Epping Forest?

Going down, going down, famously

This has not been the happiest of seasons for Stoke City, stuck fast at the bottom of the first division 17 points adrift of the club in 21st place. But at least they could still come out of it having shattered a record that has stood for almost 40 years: the lowest number of points ever attained by any side in the modern first division.

Leeds United set that 18 point record in 1946-7, the first season after the war. (Stoke would have taken the league championship that year had they won the last match of the season, away to Sheffield United on June 14). Leeds completed their programme with a record of six wins, six draws, and 30 defeats, with only one away point in the whole season. Queen's Park Rangers nearly took the record from them in 1968-9, winning only four matches all season, but ended by sharing it.

In 34 matches this season Stoke have taken 17 points. So they have only to avoid any further success this year — an achievement which, to judge from their last two performances, must be well within their grasp — to end Leeds' long pre-eminence. Their performance this year becomes even more remarkable when you allow for the fact that in these inflationary days, win qualifies for three points, whereas in the sterner ration-book-infested conditions of 1946-7 it counted for only two. If Stoke's record this season is valued at 1946-7 prices, their three wins and eight draws are worth just 14 points — comfortably behind the 17 Leeds had accumulated at the same stage of the 1946-7 season. So even if they pass the magic figure of 18, they may still be able to lay claim to the title of the least successful side in the history of the modern first division.

Stoke are also well-placed to break a second, though less venerable record: that of the fewest goals scored by any side in the 22-club first division. The present holders are Leicester City, with 26 in 1977-8. In their 34 games so far, Stoke have scored 20 goals, only four of them away, an average of 0.6 goals every 40 minutes. If they continue at this rate they will end the season with 24.7 goals, thus squeezing just under Leicester's total.

Stoke's three wins this season still leave them short of Rochdale, who won only twice in 46 matches in the season of 1973-4, and even further adrift of the ulcers champions Vale of Leven who, in 1891-2, won none of the present Stoke City players were probably still at school, got through the season without winning any matches at all. Some believe this record will stand for ever, though supporters of Cambridge United are said to believe that when they hit Division Four next season their boys must be in with a chance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How the truth can hurt

Sir,—I found Melanie Phillips' article (Society Tomorrow, April 10) most interesting, particularly her views concerning the over-riding duty of doctors to tell the truth.

However, I wonder if many patients really want to hear the truth. Does the woman with osteoarthritis of the knees want to know that the pain and stiffness of her joints are due to her being too fat, and unless she takes off surplus pounds no one can help her?

Does the chronic bronchitic, coughing incessantly, want to know that nothing can help him unless he throws away his cigarettes? Moreover, how can doctors discuss the nature of patients' illnesses in any depth, when so many of the population have such a vague idea as to how their bodies are structured and how they function?

A famous consultant at my local teaching hospital used to tell his students, "No patient should be made unhappy by having seen the doctor."

Many patients do not want to face the truth; instead they want to be jollied along by the doctor.

I have found during the 31 years of general practice in the East End of London that many patients live lives of quiet desperation. For them the truth can be very painful and surely it is better for the doctor to help his patients live to be more happy, rather than making people feel guilty for their disabilities, as appears to be the attitude of many younger doctors today.—Yours sincerely, Bernard Taylor, London E3

Soviet spell

Sir,—Lord Winstanley (April 4) is not quite consistent in his transmutation of the name of the new Soviet leader. If the Cyrillic character called "yo" is represented by the Latin character "E" as the noble Lord seems to insist — it should follow that other characters as well should be represented by their nearest visual cousins, so: Gorbachev, H. Kotla, Yours sincerely, H. Kotla, London E2.

Where young people get the best out of YTS

Sir,—Your letters page (April 9) gives space generously to yet another diatribe against the Youth Training Scheme, this time from Pat Ainey, backed by the academic respectability of a Department of Social Sciences.

Everybody knows that YTS was introduced with indecent haste, from political expediency, without adequate preparation, and everyone recognises that it probably has more than its fair share of cowboys and mavericks. However, as the person responsible, over the last two years, for building up on behalf of the Clothing Industry Training Board, the second largest national managing agency in the country, I am becoming increasingly irritated by the succession of derogatory generalisations which seem wilfully to ignore the genuine achievements of the scheme.

Our own programme within the clothing industry is administered and monitored by a team of skilled, trained and committed Youth Training Officers and it is insulting to both their integrity and abilities to describe

Sir,—So, "when it comes to defending independence and freedom," Mrs Thatcher told President Suharto in Jakarta, "we are at one with you." (Guardian, April 10).

But, what about Indonesia's forced annexation of East Timor where an estimated 200,000 people have died as a result of Indonesia's military operations? This loss of life, accounting for about one-third of East Timor's pre-invasion population of 850,000, placed East Timor second only to Kampuchea in terms of death toll, according to a survey of conflicts published in 1983 by the Washington-based Center for Defense Information.

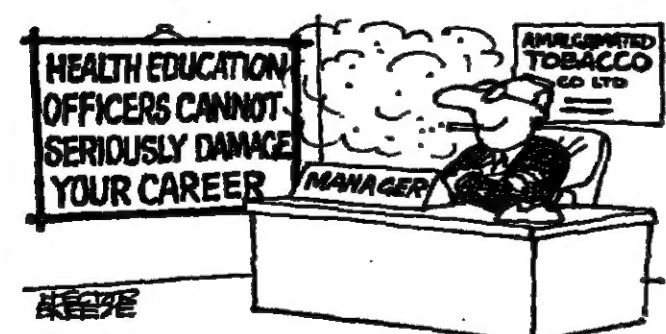
But let no-one think that East Timor is the only place where Jakarta is imposing its will by means of naked force. In the past year, some 12,000 Papuan people have fled into Papua New Guinea in the face of renewed military operations by Indonesian troops, aimed at crushing resistance to Indonesian rule in West Papua, now the Indonesian province of Irian Jaya.

Foul play

Sir,—It was interesting to read that snooker bosses have ordered tougher action to keep drugs out of their game (leader April 11). The biggest commercial sponsors of snooker, as of all other sports, are the cigarette pushers. Cigarettes are highly addictive to many of their users.

The snooker authorities' action is another fine example of the double standards which many organisations are forced to adopt once they accept tobacco money. One of the ways such hypocrisy can be highlighted may be illustrated by an example from Australia. A sticker about the cigarette pushers' patronage of artistic events carried the words "Sponsorship: pain in the arts." For snooker there must be many possibilities, such as, "Cigarette sponsorship: cue for lung cancer?"—Yours faithfully, David Simpson, Director, Action on Smoking and Health, 11 Mortimer Street, London W1.

When good work doesn't pay



Sir,—Indications of the values of a society can often be gleaned from apparently small pieces of evidence. We wonder what a social historian in a hundred years time would make of these recent job advertisements. The first is for a manager for a cigarette manufacturer.

The Manager will be the initiator and co-ordinator in all aspects of new product development from the identification of market needs through research.

Any new Philip Morris tobacco product will have a lot to live up to. As a direct result of a highly aggressive and innovative marketing approach, our Marlboro brand is the largest selling cigarette in the world.

Why Iran must give way

Sir,—Your editorial (April 10) quite rightly draws attention to the danger of a superpower involvement in the Iran/Iraq conflict if it expanded beyond its present level.

There is no argument about which country is the obstacle to peace as the Iranian leaders publicly continue to reject Iraq's offers of a negotiated settlement which

the scheme which they operate, it is only by association as "Buddy time-wasting."

Under the ITB's aegis, trainees entering the industry undergo a properly planned programme within the spirit and philosophy of YTS. They receive a broader based work preparation than that of the traditional apprenticeship, and their training includes substantial elements of personal development; many of them who have never travelled further than 10 miles from where they were born have the benefit of specially designed residential courses. Their progress is systematically assessed and documented, and they receive regular counselling.

Your Correspondent claims that the scheme "offers neither permanent employment nor (in the large majority of cases) any real training." The clothing industry scheme has provided permanent employment for over 95 per cent of its trainees, and we have about 3,000 in between half and two thirds of these were employed whilst on the scheme, many of them from the beginning.

And they have been paid wages equal rates rather than a "pitiful allowance."

There may be justification in many schemes for the accusation of "no real training," but it is precisely this indiscriminate generalising which undermines the work of organisations such as ourselves who are training conscientiously and professionally within YTS.

Youngsters on YTS do not regard the scheme as a "rip off" or "con job." It is for them a route into full employment, equipping them with the skills and attitudes which will enable them to cope with the demands of working life.

Of course, our scheme is not perfect, and we too have our mavericks but Mr Ainey and others do a serious disservice to the potential of YTS when they choose, for the sake of their argument, to ignore its best manifestations.—Yours faithfully, P. R. Johnson, Manager, Special Projects, Clothing Industry Training Board, Merriam Way, Leeds.

A school ban that fails to keep the peace

Sir,—Your report (April 10) that Devon Education Committee has voted to ban the wearing of CND badges and anti nuclear badges in school and also the display of them on teachers cars saddened me.

As headmaster of a Devon comprehensive I heard of this quite ridiculous proposal weeks ago and wrote to our chairman of governors asking her to use her influence with the Education Committee to head off this measure which it was obvious would damage teacher morale still further and make the Education Committee a laughing stock.

I am not a member of CND and I do not know of any staff who wear badges; but I am sure there will be badges and to spare on show when term reopens and teachers react angrily to this high-handed and insulting edict.

As far as I know there has been no political indoctrination or CND propaganda in our school, so why this act of incredible stupidity? Our masters at County Hall

than 60 dead and a far higher number seriously wounded.

But under Indonesia's special brand of freedom which our Prime Minister admires so much, far from the perpetrators of this crime being brought to justice, the victims are the ones now on trial. One of the trials still in progress has 28 men in the dock, all of them survivors of the massacre; many of the accused have been crippled for life, and some have not yet had operations to remove bullets lodged in their bodies.

As one of their defence lawyers said in court a few weeks ago, they should by rights be suing the government for damages. Instead, we have the spectacle of men being condemned on the basis of evidence from the very soldiers who fired at them with automatic weapons.

The irony of Mrs Thatcher's visit is not only that she remained silent "in a thousand tongues" as they say in Indonesia, about such

heavy-handed repression but that she went to Jakarta to find new markets for British arms exports, to bolster a military regime responsible for so much bloodshed.—Yours sincerely, Carmel Sudrajat, 8a Trepost Street, London SW1.

Sir,—Freedom and democracy can seldom be further from the Prime Minister's mind than when she is acting as Britain's saleswoman "for British arms."

The rapid growth in British arms sales to Indonesia since 1978, which have included 20 Hawk ground attack aircraft, helicopters, armoured cars, and Rapier missiles, displays a callous disregard on the part of the Government for the freedoms of the Indonesians, East Timorese, and West Papuans. Indonesia is a clear example of a country which should be boycotted, not bolstered with more and more military hardware. Andrew Dilworth, 14 Calverton Road, London N1.

Sir,—The people of the Sudan decided this Easter to celebrate in a most novel and useful fashion.

For years they have laboured under the shadow of a tyrant who has devalued their currency by over 50 per cent, demoralised the professional classes, brought rioting to the streets of the capital and transformed a formerly fertile and prosperous country into a desert. Upon the decision of their dictator to take a trip abroad, the people of the Sudan accordingly took the correct course in ridding themselves of a menacing leader who had begun to impose an utterly outmoded and damaging sense of values on an intelligent and advanced society.

In the light of these events it did possibly be tentatively suggested that the British could follow a Sudanese precedent while Mrs Thatcher continues to hold forth in Southeast Asia?—Yours faithfully, George Lucas, Balliol College, Oxford.

Miscellany

Sir,—In your story Postwoman Glad Leaps Out the Map (Front Page, April 10), you state that "Postman Pat...trundles Dales in a van, presumably meaning the Yorkshire Dales. In fact, although Pat delivers in Greendale, this is in the Lake District and is based on the Kennerley Valley, near Kendal. Do not be misled by the name of Greendale—many Lake District valleys are 'dales', notably Langdale, Eskdale and Borrowdale. Postman Pat himself was modelled on a Kendal postman—Yours, Harold Rutherford, (another Kendal postman) Kendal, Cumbria.

Sir, Please allow me to alter the image of the woodcutter as depicted in your Country Diary (April 8). The woodcutter is in fact the saviour of our woodlands.

Coppice management involves felling sections of the woodland over a period of 15 to 20 years providing plenty of firewood logs. In fact many woodmen are being recruited and the benefits to wildlife are considerable. Hedgerow trees, if they have been pollarded need cutting again and again providing both fuel and habitat. So Mr Country should look again at woodcutters, coppicers and pollarders — wonderful bedmates.—Yours C. Jarvis, Chelmsford, Essex.

Sir,—Your redoubtable diatribe reports one Mr Beuselwink solicitor to a once-weekly journal, as likening solicitors to cabs on a rank, "with clients able to pick and choose between them." (April 11). Apart from the fact that one is normally forced to take the cab at the head of the rank, isn't it barristers to whom this simile refers? Solicitors are perhaps more like thirsty hire cars.—Yours sincerely, Jacqueline Castles, London W2.

Sir,—Mr Silver (April 12) tries to refute my statement (April 10) that Mr Steel voted for the successful resolution at the last Liberal Party conference to contain the item calling for immediate withdrawal of American missiles. Mr Silver is wrong. The Liberal Party officially confirmed to me that Mr Steel, as was widely reported at the time, did vote for the resolution. Perhaps Mr Silver does not know that all voting at Liberal Assembly is by show of hands. Richard Waterwright, MP, Transport 2000, London SW1.

Employment policy on the road to nowhere

This has already happened in London and the Tyne and Wear, for example. Given a taxation policy which forced car users to appreciate the real costs of their private motoring, company car or not, would lead many more to join the bus queue. The Government's policies are quite opposed to all this. The Transport Bill will not only seriously if not totally damage bus networks all over the country (including eventually London) but will also threaten BR commuter routes. Susan Boyle, Transport 2000, London NW1.

the first time on this side of the Pennines so that we usually remember days on Windgate Edge or Hollingworthall Moor as sunless and grim. The high voltage power lines strung from towering pylon supports to nothing to enhance the scene. They cross from Tintwistle Low Moor to Stalybridge, passing close to the highest part of the hill: the song of the wind in this softening the character of the place. Occasionally, though, sun comes clear and the sun low distance stars right across the Cheshire plain, beyond the spread of bricks and mortar and tower blocks to the blue outlines of Welsh hills.

ROGER A. REDFERN

Artistic myths

Sir,—Nicholas de Jongh is perpetuating a damaging myth about the character of Pamela (Arts Guardian, April 9).

De Jongh suggests that Pamela attracts Mr Belleville actively, rather than just being an unavoidably attractive girl. De Jongh writes that she "refuses to yield before marriage" — wording which would take to imply that Pamela was baiting Mr Belleville with her sexual charms.

Pamela is a 14-year-old working maid when Mr Belleville begins sexually harassing her — too naive to be a manipulator of Mr Belleville's sexual feelings.

There is a great pro-Pamela feeling amongst readers. Her story is one of intense psychological stress. Certainly Mr de Jongh is entitled to his Pamela opinion, but let me redress the balance.—Yours faithfully, Elizabeth McIntyre, Harborne, Birmingham.

Sir,—Perpetuating myths does not help those who chase after the authentic in music.

In his criticism of Hogwood (Guardian, April 9) Michael John White asserts, in concert with the venerable Chrysander (1888) that Apollo e Dafne was written by Handel for his Italian patron Prince Ruspoli. Last year, though, Hans Joachim Marx demonstrated that much of the work had in fact been written out by a copyist to the Emperor Court on paper produced in Saxony. Marx concluded that the work was likely produced for performance in Hanover during Handel's brief stay there during the summer of 1710. Martin Medford, St Albans, Herts.



may not normally be models of sensitivity but at least one usually expects them to be politically street-wise.—John Sturt, Devon.

Sir,—The Conservative Chairman of the Devon Education Committee, Mr Ted Pinney, is quoted (April 10) as saying that "the role of teachers is to teach, not indoctrinate." Does Devon have no Church schools — or public schools? What are these if not very clear manifestations of parents opting (often at considerable expense) for indoctrination?

Towns with good prospects

Sir,—The revelations in John Cunningham's interesting articles (April 10, 11) on past and future new towns may come as a surprise to those who have not kept up to date with developments in the public and private sectors. Some of his statements will also surprise those who have been involved in the work of new towns and in the winding up of development corporations.

It is a mistake to suppose that, when left to themselves, former new towns will lose the impetus which development corporations have created or that the achievements of growth will wither when responsibility passes to those who live and work in them or to those who will own and manage these assets.

There is nothing wrong with the idea of people running their own towns and experience in the USA has shown that private ownership can stimulate and promote prosperity as well as helping to create successful and happy communities.

It is also untrue that, in the new towns, joblessness is higher in new rather than old industries. In Redditch, as in other new towns which were concerned with the expansion of existing communities, the reverse has happened and the evidence points to the survival of more firms whose initiative

and enterprise have been put to the test in new town conditions.

Environment ministers who have paid tribute to the achievements of development corporations have done so in the knowledge that tax payers' money has been well invested and can themselves take credit for the successes which their policies have already met — and those which are still to come.—Yours faithfully, Dennis Elston, Chairman, Redditch Development Corporation, Redditch, Worcestershire.

Sir,—John Cunningham's interesting article on the winding up of the New Town Corporations may be pointed out that the five Scottish New Towns, Cumbernauld, East Kilbride, Glenrothes, Irvine and Livingston answer to the Secretary of State for Scotland and not through the Department of the Environment. Nor are the Scottish New Towns being wound up with the same rapidity as their English and Welsh counterparts. Indeed, in the case of the younger Scottish new towns, may be the year 2000 before wind up is complete. Martin Roche, London Executive, Scottish New Towns London Office, London SW1.

A COUNTRY DIARY

LONGDENDALE: A dark tongue of hill country pokes south-westwards to separate the Tame and Etherow valleys. It hides Stalybridge and Mossley from Mottram and Hollingworth and always looks fascinating from the western hills of Peakland — from, say, Coombes Edge or Peakaze Moor. Always sombre, it seems, this spur is Hollingworthall Moor and rises to only 1,309 feet but gives a close view of the industrial North-West as any hill I know. You look straight down into Dukinfield and Stalybridge and up the serpentine, town-hung dale towards Saddleworth and see the constant comings and goings on Yorkshire's Greater Man-

chester roads and trains to and from Leeds. On these heathery, exposed slopes derelict and blackened hill farms are juxtaposed with small housing estates. Girls ride fat ponies and good livers tether their goats on neglected pastures between tumble-down walls. Three-storeyed weavers' cottages climb into the clouds an dits not hard to find what must have been models for some of Laurence Lowry's more rural landscapes — sooty houses on sad moorland. Rain clouds never far away. Yes, this part seems to get more than its fair share of heavy cloud, thick stuff that shuts out a lot of sunlight and turns the hill shapes into featureless, half-sun outlines. The damp westerlies come this way, rising for

WEEKEND SPORT

Robert Armstrong charts Brian Stein's journey from the veldt to a Villa Park semi-final

Cape boy full of good hope

BRIAN STEIN is light years away from the soccer stereotype who plays cards, enjoys Dallas, steak and chips and worries about buying a swimming pool or a new car. The Luton striker loves tennis, took A levels in sociology and modern history, trained to be a social worker, and developed political attitudes sharpened by raw experience long before he became a professional footballer.

The South African-born Stein has been buffeted by both life and sport since he was a child, but it would be wrong to think of him as a grim and serious person. His sunny disposition has survived lengthy injuries and the trauma of being taken up and dropped by England after just one game last year. Today's FA Cup semi-final is Stein's biggest personal test in the public eye since that dismal defeat by France on a cold February night in Paris.

Naturally Luton will rely heavily on the finishing power of Stein, whose opportunistic goal against Millwall last month put the Hatters in the semi-finals for the first time in 26 years. With well over 100 goals to his credit in around 300 senior games, Stein has scored more goals for Luton than any other player in the current squad.

As he attempts to penetrate Everton's defence at Villa Park, Stein's vision of Wembley will seem a far cry from the dusty veldt of South Africa, where Stein first kicked a ball. "People get the impression that rugby is the most popular sport in South Africa, due to the Springboks, but actually football is favoured by a far greater number. Rugby tends to be regarded as the white man's sport."

However, it was the white man's politics that ended Stein's sporting career in Cape Town at the age of eight. His father Isiah was placed under house arrest because of his activity in anti-apartheid politics and soon afterwards this was the mid-sixties in the family, including seven brothers, made the one-way trip to London. Fortunately,

father Stein quickly found a job with the publishers Heinemann's. Since setting up house in Willesden in 1966, Stein has not returned to South Africa, though the British passport he now possesses in theory enables him to visit his homeland. In spite of his many personal contacts with the South African Non-Racial Congress Committee, Brian has never really emulated his father with active support of the anti-apartheid movement in this country.

"I feel I ought to be more involved, but perhaps achieving a little bit of success has made me too comfortable," remarked Stein with his usual candour. "Last year I wrote a regular football column for Newsline, the journal of the Workers' Party, but I soon had reporters ringing me up and asking 'Are you a Commie?' It was ridiculous because other footballers like Charlie Hughes also wrote for the paper."

I used to reply 'You would not ask me about my politics if I was writing for the Sun.' They would say 'This is different, because the Workers' Party wants to overthrow the Government.' I don't write the column now."

As it happens, Stein's politics are about as revolutionary as those of the Labour Party. "Stein is almost as passionate about tennis as soccer, confessing that he would have loved to have been a tennis pro. His brother, Benjamin, a qualified LTA coach, plays at the Cumberland Club and gives Brian the occasional session when he comes down from his village home at Flitwick, near Luton, to London."

Once Stein played a double at Queen's Club, but it was embarrassing—I was so far out of my depth I wanted a paper bag to put over my head. I have real trouble with my backhand. Now Stein feels more at home playing a few sets with Luton's assistant manager, Trevor Hartley who apparently makes a habit of getting every ball back over the net.

In fact, Stein might have remained a part-time footballer with non-League clubs like Sudbury—where John Barnes began—and Edgware Town, were it not for the happy chance of meeting the current Luton coach, John Moore. One day in 1977 Stein scored four goals for Edgware in a 4-1 win over Dunstable Town, then managed by Moore, and as a result his life changed overnight.

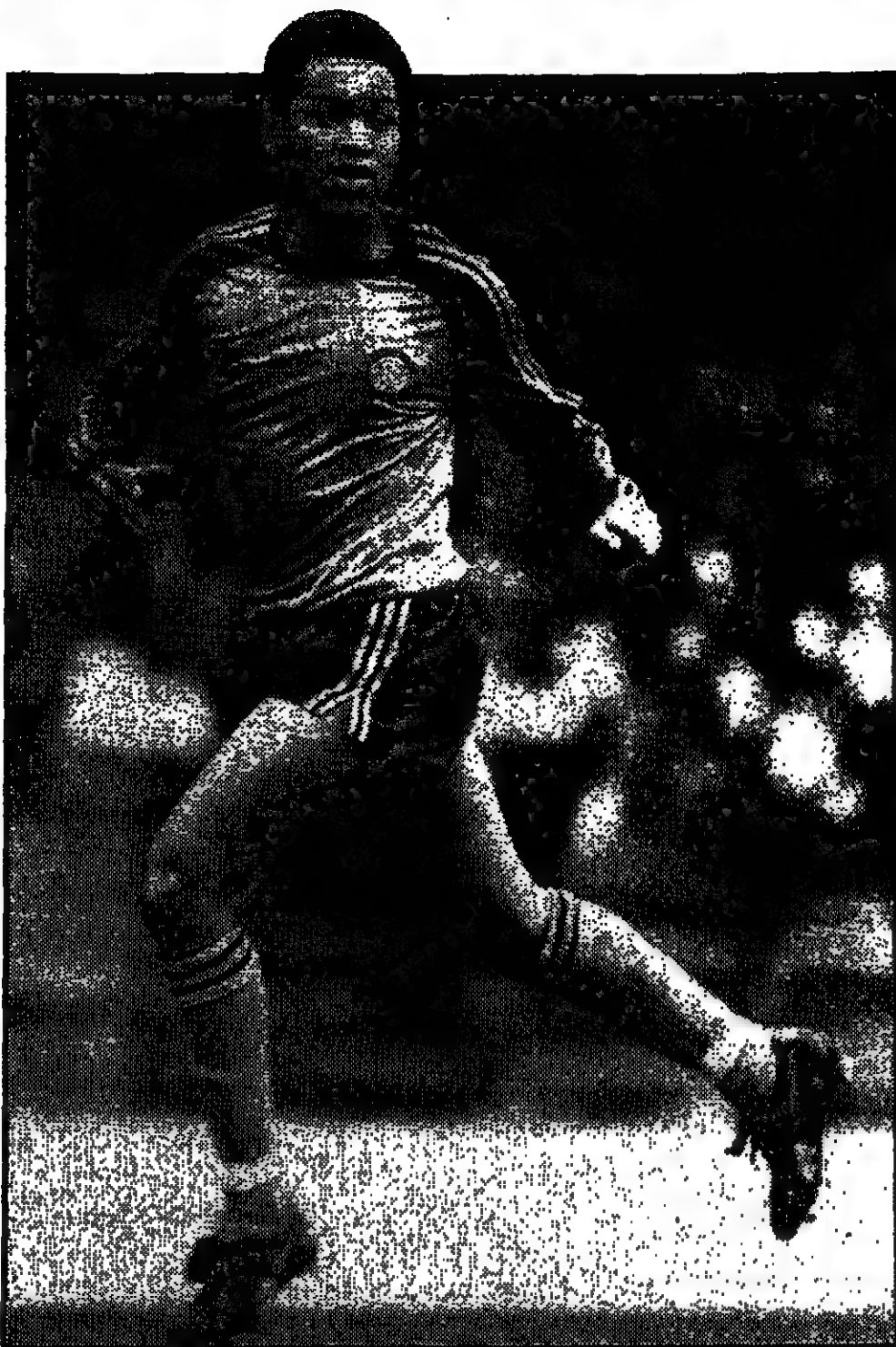
Moore tipped off his friend Harry Haslam, then Luton's manager. Stein was watched by David Pleat playing against Boreham Wood, and on Pleat's recommendation the striker signed for the Hatters on his 20th birthday. Stein, who had not long taken his A levels at Kilburn Polytechnic, made an immediate impact in the Second Division, scoring 14 goals in his first full season, 1978-9.

Without doubt the most painful experience of Stein's career was his performance for England at the Park des Princes. "It was a nightmare. Many of us played well below our best while France played like the best team in the world. I could have told you then that they would win the European Championship in the summer."

Stein's only international appearance since that 2-0 defeat has been for Dave Sexton's under-21 side as an over-age player when England beat Italy 1-0.

At 27, Stein is at the crossroads of his career, undecided whether to accept a new three-year contract with Luton this summer after almost eight seasons with the club. He is generous in his acknowledgement of the help received from both Pleat and Sexton, who have moulded his style at the highest level. Yet it would not be a complete surprise if he seeks fresh stimulus elsewhere.

Today's showpiece, followed possibly by a Wembley appearance, gives Stein the opportunity to make the impact that would attract other clubs. But the fact that Luton's ambitious chairman, David Evans, has supplied the finance to help Pleat



EDUCATED STRIDE... Brian Stein, footballer with a difference, is out to pass his Everton examination this afternoon

build a much stronger team, is bent on giving Stein food for thought.

"We have lost only three of our last 16 games and that proves the team has more potential than it did last year," said Stein. The arrival of Mick Harford has given our play a completely new dimension because we have not used a target man of his type before. We used to play two nippy front men—now we are less predictable and have more options in attack."

"We still play the ball to feet, but we also hit high crosses into the box and

sometimes knock the ball straight up from the back. In midfield the influence of Preese and Nicholas has been equally valuable because Ricky Hill was having to give so much time to helping out younger, more inexperienced players."

"At the back Steve Foster is very experienced and likes talking his way through a game—he seems to like the sound of his own voice, which is a very good thing for us. Mal Donaghy has become a tremendous influence since he began playing for Northern Ireland three or four years ago. He leads

more by example and, with Steve, has helped to bring along our two young full-backs."

No-one is more keenly aware than Stein that Luton are precariously poised between glory and obscurity—between FA Cup success and relegation back to the Second Division the Hatters inhabited only three years ago. Despite Luton's improved form in the League Stein has failed to score since that intimidating meeting with Millwall. Today, the man from the Cape will pray for a fair wind to set him back on course.

Hearns plans a burial at Caesars

Tommy Hearns fights Marvin Hagler for the World Middleweight title on Monday. Frank Keating sets the scene

FROM this distance it is hard to credit that Marvin Hagler might set out in defence of his world title on Monday as the underdog. I suppose the Las Vegas gamblers of Caesars Palace know their green onions better than most, and it is said the pile of heavy wads make Tommy Hearns favourite to beat the menacing, shaven-headed champion to add the World Middleweight title to the other two he has already won.

Hagler is nine years unbeaten. Hearns says he will knock him out inside 10 minutes. It is difficult to picture the fearsome Hagler prostate, event at bedtime, and I won't believe it until I see it—which, alas, I won't for I am off to the cricket in Spain.

If Hagler's time is really up I suppose Hearns is the man to call him in. The challenger is one heck of a fist fighter. He has won 34 out of 40 inside the distance. A six footer, he is awkwardly long, not compactly wide like the more orthodox Hagler.

Hearns has a relentless closed-knuckled right hand primed and cocked for manslaughter, but you don't have to ask England's Minter or Sibson whether they recall the ageing champion's two-handed blow upstairs and down. It could be an awesome night.

I might be missing the Nevada thunderstorm but I will not miss Las Vegas. It is a frightful dump, my first trip to Caesars Palace was to watch Hearns' attempt to take the welterweight title from Sugar Ray Leonard.

That was an epic challenge in the hotel car park under the desert stars. Hearns stalked the smaller man, his jackhammer right cocked; Leonard, an arrogant half-smile for ever playing about his choirboy's face, kept out of trouble as if on a circus trick-cycle—backwards and forwards and mostly sideways, left then right, ducking, bobbing, always that smile, always using the ropes like there might be a snakepit in the centre of the ring. Occasionally they tore at each other in a snarling exchange.

In the sixth I can still hear the shriek from Hearns as he was nearly ripped apart by right hander to the breadbasket. He came back for more. By the ninth, however, his ammo was damp with sweat. Still he rallied heroically in a vicious fifth round.

But it was the last shot, and now Leonard circled the wagon with awful intent gleaming from his one good

eye. In came the arrows, and still that smile, and by the 14th the burning missiles came over and Hearns was a gonner.

Then the bejewelled Blitz throng went back in to the roulette wheels and crap tables. The big boys come in the fights for free, no charges at all—except of course to play the tables. Caesars is by no means the biggest hotel in the strange, mad frontier town. It was built in the 1960s to be the gaudiest of the gaudy. The rooms are packed with all the hedonist trimmings—mirrored bedroom ceilings, above circular canopied beds, and enough plush red and bright gold trappings to send any reasonable person colour blind.

The waitresses wear tiny togas as pelipets to the longest legs you can imagine. The hotel stationery is parchment like. The note on your dressing-room table tells

Boxing news at home, p.12

you—there is no apostrophe in the title—that would mean this was the palace of only one Caesar. We want to create the feeling for you that everybody in this hotel is a Caesar.

The idea of flying in the pumers for a sports event began on New Year's Eve 1967 when Evel Knievel tried to jump his motorcycle over the palace's famed and fluted fountain. Evel, whether by accident or design, came a cropper, broke his hip, pelvis and one side of his rib cage—but the management were satisfied.

Boxing was the obvious sport that would keep them coming back. The first heavyweight title fight in Las Vegas took place at the Convention Centre when Lister knocked out Patterson in the first round in 1963. All beat Patterson two years later. Then Caesars got in on the act beginning with the World Heavyweight Championship of Tennis when Connors beat Laver.

Just before my first visit there, apparently the promoter Don King was driving down the Strip with the owners of Caesars Palace. Said King, in his usual hyperbolic manner: "Guys, this match between Hearns and Leonard is going to be so big we're going to have to hold it on the moon."

Said the Caesars man without changing expression: "So we'll build a moon." There was no reason to believe he did not mean it. On balance, however, I'd rather be in Spain on Monday.

The Welsh wizard who spelled trouble

As Manchester United go into their FA Cup semi-final today, David Lacey recalls Billy Meredith, a Mancunian idol who is the subject of a fascinating new book

BILLY MEREDITH died in the spring of 1958, two months after the Munich air crash had destroyed Matt Busby's young Manchester United team. Because of its timing the passing of a man who had become a legend with both the Manchester club, did not receive the attention it deserved.

People were still too stunned by the deaths of Duncan Edwards, Roger Byrne and the others to dwell for long on the memory of a footballer who had played his last match for United 37 years earlier. Yet the name of Billy Meredith ranks with that of Stanley Matthews in the history of the British game.

Until Matthews broke his record in 1965, Meredith held the distinction of having been the oldest active player in the Football League. He was 50 before he retired and his last appearance was for Manchester City in an FA Cup semi-final against Newcastle. Needless to say, City lost.

Meredith played for City from 1894 to 1905 and again from 1921 to 1924. In between he played for Manchester United. He won 48 Welsh caps.

Meredith was an outside-right in the classic style; indeed he did as much as anybody to create the style. He was a marvellous dribbler and an excellent passer and a crosser of the ball. He also scored goals. While all this was happening Meredith invariably chewed on a toothpick.

Yet in the 1905-06 season Meredith did not play at all. Thereby hangs an intriguing tale and one which has been painstakingly researched and documented in a new biogra-

phy—Football Wizard. The Story of Billy Meredith by John Harding (Breedon Books, £4.95).

It is a story of Edwardian attitudes among the football authorities, the growing power of the professional players and the slow realisation that the game had become more of a business than sport. At the end of it you realise that between 1906 and 1909 English soccer did not change all that much.

In 1905 the Football Association suspended Meredith for the whole of the following season for attempting to bribe an Aston Villa player, their captain, Alec Leake, with £10 in a match that City had to win to take the League championship. Four years later Meredith and the whole of the United team were banned sine die, this time because they had formed a players' union.

The two events, as Harding illustrates, were not connected. By the Edwardian period professional football was no longer a novelty. The FA was more than 40 years old and the League had been operating for two decades. Soccer was part of the entertainment business and playing to a large audience.

United were a glamour club even before the First World War. Players had their own businesses and at the height of the players' union crisis Meredith's men's outfitters were badly damaged by fire. Fortunately the FA Cup held by United and on display in the shop, was not damaged.

As ever, money lay at the heart of football's problems. The bigger clubs always wanted to pay their players more than the regulations



MAN AND THE CARICATURE... Billy Meredith and, right, his popular depiction, complete with toothpick

allowed and at one point 20 of them threatened to break away and form their own super league if they could not have their own wages structure—plus a change...

But in 1900 the FA had accepted a resolution from the smaller clubs that the wage ceiling should be £4 a week, including bonuses. This, it was argued, would stop the best players drifting to the rich clubs, a view which persisted until the wage restrictions were lifted in 1961.

However, after City had won the FA Cup for the first time in 1904, Meredith freely admitted that they



had made illegal payments: "What was the secret of success of the Manchester City team? In my opinion the fact that the club put aside the rule that no player should receive more than £4 a week."

Such bluntness was to have fearful repercussions both for Meredith and the club. At the end of the 1905 season City's attempt to add the championship to their Cup triumph foundered at Villa. After they had lost a hot-tempered match which included many fouls, mud-slinging (literally) and a punch-up, the FA held an inquiry and astonished every-

body with their decision on Meredith's attempted bribe. After all, they were supposed to be investigating a brawl.

Nevertheless Meredith was found guilty on the evidence of Leake, who had first looked on the bribery attempt as a joke but had to admit that an offer had been made, plus some hearsay evidence which would not have stood up in a court of law.

In 1906 City were hauled up before the FA for illegal payments. All their directors were suspended—two, including the chairman, for life. Several players were fined and, like Meredith, banned for a year. As Harding puts it: "After taking close on £50,000 in five years the club had now no real assets at all... just a few stands, some kit and cash in hand of £15." And this was half-a-century before the return of Big Mal.

Meredith, anything but repentant, was contemptuous of the football authorities.

Meredith was not a political militant, even though these were turbulent social times with the Labour Party finding its feet and the new unions winning important rights under the 1909 Trades Dispute Act. If he voted at all, he voted Liberal.

But between 1907 and 1909 his was the well-known voice that was constantly heard as attempts were made, with strong United backing, to form a footballers' union.

The Players' Union was formed at the Imperial Hotel, Manchester, at the end of 1907 with Meredith in the chair. Their aims were the familiar ones—freedom of contract, an end to wage restraint, basic civil rights, etc. Matters came to a head early in 1909 when the union wanted a player in dispute with his club over wages to be allowed to go to law under the new Workmen's Compensation Act.

The FA retaliated by telling the clubs to insert a clause in each new contract by which players would declare the union and declare

their allegiance to Football Association regulations. In March, newspaper reports suggested that the Players' Union were trying to persuade the England team to go on strike on the eve of the Scotland match, but these were denied by Meredith.

Nevertheless, the FA duly suspended the whole of the United team that summer and there was a moment of farce when the players turned up at the ground for their wages and on failing to get them took several items in lieu of cash—a picture of the wall, looking-glasses, hairbrushes and so on—which went on sale at a nearby pub. It was not a serious gesture; the property was soon returned.

After this brief drama the crisis fizzled out. Although the United players had refused to betray their union, they signed separate contracts with the club for the coming season. But Meredith was not among them. In his column in the Weekly News he urged the players to stand firm and not forfeit the right to strike. The Corinthians offered to play a Players' Union team to raise funds.

In November, however, the players were balloted on whether or not they wanted to remain affiliated to the General Federation of Trades Unions and the proposal was heavily defeated.

"I confess that the bulk of the players have not shown much pluck in the matter," Meredith said later, "but the clubs who have led the players forward and who voted solidly in favour of remaining within the Federation have the satisfaction of knowing that they behaved like men. A man said to me the other day, 'Ah the players have not the pluck of the miners,' and he was right of course."

How ironic that a future chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association should be a Manchester United right-winger—Steve Coppell.



HAGLER: Menacing



HEARNS: Favourite

WEEKEND SPORT: THREE

David Irvine in Dallas

Nystrom puts out McEnroe

TENNIS

Thursday, April 11, was no ordinary day in the life of Jannik Nystrom. He began it by shooting 29, the best score of a brief golfing career, at Las Colinas, one of those smart new courses that adorn the Texas landscape.

Then in the evening he walked from his hotel to the Reunion Arena in Dallas and beat the world's best player in straight sets.

Nystrom's 6-4, 7-6, 6-3 victory over an opponent most people considered unbeatable in the WCT tour may not have suited tournament officials, already worried at the box office response, or CBS, who had planned a spectacular weekend double-header linking the event with the Masters golf from Augusta, but with tennis in danger of becoming a one-man show, it was the best possible result for the game.

Apart from his defeat by another of the Swedes, Henrik Lundström, in the Davis Cup final at Gothenburg in December, McEnroe had not lost since August—more remarkable since it was his first defeat in 12 months. After carpet matches stretching back to September, 1983.

So does this mean that the Swedes, five of whom made the 12-man draw here, have won the WCT tour? After all it was Mats Wilander who stopped him in the 1983 Australian Open. "Maybe it's because we all have good passing shots," suggested Nystrom.

He is coming to the net a lot more than he used to. "I felt there was glue on my sneakers"—and lack of decision on his first volley, Nystrom's ground strokes were remarkably accurate and consistent. Time after time he rifled the ball past the advancing American, never allowing himself to be intimidated or overawed.

He began, he said, hoping to give the crowd a worthwhile match. Only at the end of the first set, decided on a love break in the third game, did he start to think in terms of winning. At the same time he agreed with McEnroe that the champion, who had hoped to become the first to win the title three years in a row, had played poorly.

And in truth, judged on his own standards, McEnroe was awful. "I just couldn't get-

ing. He was returning my serve well from the start and it seemed I was doing the wrong thing every time. Even when I had chances I couldn't take them. It was a very bad effort."

McEnroe certainly should have won the second set. He had three chances at 5-4 and two more at 6-5. To make matters worse he foot-faulted on what would have been an ace when Nystrom had set point in the tie break and then floated a backhand over the baseline.

It was the sort of thing designed to produce one of those McEnroe explosions, but he controlled himself well and was generous in defeat. "He's a good player. He makes you work for it. I couldn't get on top of him. Yet Nystrom conceded that had the second set gone, he would probably have lost."

Everything had seemed in Nystrom's favour. While Nystrom had to readjust to a fast court, after playing Monte Carlo last week, all the American's tennis since the US Open had been indoors. Moreover, Nystrom was a rank outsider with only one career win against the other 11 players in the field.

"That's some cool guy," remarked one observer. And so he should be, having been born and raised close to the Arctic Circle. All the other Swedes come from the southern half of their country. Nystrom lives in Skellefteå, a northern town whose sporting claim to fame—until yesterday—lay in the success of its ice hockey team.

"At home we have only one indoor court," he said. "No one is very much interested in tennis. Maybe they will be now—particularly if he can now—similar form in today's semi-final against another American, Tim Mayotte, who had little difficulty disposing of Nystrom's golfing partner, Wilander, 6-3, 6-1, 7-6."



NYSTROM: consistent

Two seeds fall to Gould

Two matches in one day proved too much for Jo Louis (Ipswich) and Clare Wood (Sussex), who were knocked out in the semi-finals of the British Junior hardcourt championships at Wimbledon yesterday.

Miss Wood became the second seeded victim of I-A Gould (Essex), going down 1-6, 7-6, 6-4, after having led 3-1 in the second set and 4-2 in the third.



BRIDGE

Rixi Markus

IT WAS eleven years ago that Sally Oppenheim and I formulated the idea of holding a challenge match between our two houses of Parliament. We never dreamed that it would be such a success, the lead to so many other events. The next meeting between the Commons and Lords will be held on Tuesday at the Inn on the Park.

A combined Parliamentary team has frequently travelled to meet bridge-playing politicians from other countries. Unfortunately, it has recently lost three of its players—Lord Cleeve, the Earl of Birkenhead, and Sir Anthony Berry, the captain of the victorious Commons team of 1984 and a victim of the terrorist bomb in Brighton. It will take some time to rebuild the team so that we can once again a force to be reckoned with in matches overseas.

I took the combined Parliamentary team to Morocco in February. We had an exciting week, being lavishly wined and dined, and I felt a little sorry for our team who could hardly be expected to display their best bridge-playing form after such preparation for the match. To be honest, though, our depleted team proved no match for the Moroccans.

The President of the Moroccan Parliament is Mr Ahmed Osman, their former ambassador to Washington, and Prime Minister for several years. He played bridge like a champion. Here is an example of his prowess on a crucial deal from the match.

Dealer South: love all.

North			
♠ A Q J 9 3			
♥ 8 5 7 2			
♦ K 7			
East			
♠ K 10 8 5			
♥ 10 9			
♦ 10 8 6 3			
♣ 8 2			

The Moroccan auction was as follows:

South			
♠ 10	♥ 8	♦ 10	♣ 8
NT	NT	NT	NT
North			
♠ 10	♥ 8	♦ 10	♣ 8
NT	NT	NT	NT

West led a low diamond against 4NT, and declarer won with the king and immediately unblocked the queen of spades. East played well by ducking the queen, and this persuaded Mr Osman to return to his hand by overcalling the bid of clubs which would have been the right play if West had held both the red kings. As it was, Mr Osman ducked in hand, won with dummy's queen and cashed dummy's fifth spade, leaving the following position:

North			
♠ 8 7 2			
♥ 8			
♦ 10			
♣ 8			
East			
♠ 8			
♥ 8			
♦ 10			
♣ 8			

The king of clubs to declarer's ace now seemed West in the red suit. If he threw a diamond, South would have two more diamond tricks; and if West threw a heart on the ace of clubs, the king of hearts from South would endow him and compel him to return a diamond into declarer's tenace.

© Rixi Markus



FLYING HIGH: Britain's Sally Lerner, Coca-Cola winner last December

Benjamin Raphael on today's Champions All at Wembley

Mavity follows Retton trail

GYMNASTICS

Ten years ago an unknown 13-year-old Romanian gymnast, Nadia Comăneci, competed in the Champions All. It was her international debut but her performance at Wembley, unfortunately confirmed at the 1976 Olympics, became a new measure of technical proficiency in the sport.

In this afternoon's competition her former coach Maria Karelly brings over her latest prodigy—only this time she's American, Yolande Mavity. Ever since Mrs Karelly and her husband Bela defected to the US in 1981, the Americans have been prominently successful in international events.

This climaxed amid clapping euphoria at the Los Angeles Olympics, when Mary Lou Retton, meticulously prepared by the Karellys, took the gold medal ahead of Romania's Ecaterina Szabo. Miss Comăneci watched that day with a mixture of appreciation and patriotic disappointment.

Just as in 1976 so today a new generation takes the stage at Champions All. Mrs Karelly hopes that Miss Mavity will eventually prove an adequate successor to Miss Retton and perhaps convey some of the grace which was invariably absent from the bouncing Olympic champion. Miss Retton, a girl with a smile of a toothpaste advertisement contrasted

with a pair of thighs of a Millwall fullback, was seldom aesthetically pleasing. Against Miss Mavity are ranged Romania's Daniela Silivaş, who were second in the American Cup, and the Soviet Union's Elena Gurova. Miss Gurova, 18, is one of the competitors for next month's European championships and November's World Championships. In training yesterday she excited observers with her adept double-twisting somersaults.

Britain's Sally Lerner, whose victory in last December's Coca-Cola International was a revelation, will do well to place in the top three. The event is sponsored by the Daily Mirror.

Pat Rowley

Talent-spotters wanted

HOCKEY

It's been a week that that has justified one's faith in British hockey talent. If only selectors would get around and look at it.

Bernard Cotton, the acting GB manager, put in an appearance at the international universities tournament at Loughborough, and was rewarded by seeing a British team beat Germany and win the title. Unfortunately, no one resembling a world-class selector was present nor did one travel to Belgium last weekend to see a very good England schoolboys' team finish runners-up in the international under-18 event.

Ireland and England set up an exciting finale to the Home Countries Schoolboys' tournament in Dublin with a deluge of goals, writes Janet Ruck. The match was a hard-fought Ireland victory over England's 2-0 victory over Wales was followed by a 6-0 win over Scotland.

SPORT IN BRIEF

CRICKET: The Australian Board admitted yesterday that there could be some truth in rumours that a number of players have been approached.

MARATHON: High-class competition coupled with ideal course conditions could produce fast times in the first World Cup Marathon this weekend. New Zealand's Loraine Moller, fifth in the Olympic Marathon and Raisa Smekhnova of the Soviet Union, third at the Helsinki World Championships in 1983, head the field for the women's race today along with East Germany's Katrin Dorre.

WEEKEND FIXTURES IN DETAIL

<p>Goal-40 2.0 miles (shut)</p> <p>FA CUP</p> <p>SEMI-FINALS</p> <p>Luton v. Bolton (Aston Villa)</p> <p>Manchester City v. Liverpool (Derby)</p> <p>CANON LEAGUE</p> <p>FIRST DIVISION</p> <p>Aston v. Nottingham Forest</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. Sheffield</p> <p>Sheff Wed v. 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DIARY

A STRIKING feature of this week's Conservative Party Political Broadcast was the sight of two dear old ladies travelling on a shiny new coach while telling the cameras how wonderful the local rural — and privatised — bus service was. Cut to shot of bus stopping in the middle of tiny village to let old dears off; obliging caddy bus driver even gets out of his seat and carries old dears shopping down steps.

Who are the stars of the show? Don't be hasty now. Step forward Mrs Gwen Ball, treasurer of the Leominster Conservative Party and her friend, Mrs Betty Nutt, a party member for 30 years. They both volunteered, says Mrs Ball, after the local agent had been asked by the film-makers to find two old ladies shopping down steps.

And Mrs Nutt? "Oh, she never uses a bus because her husband's got a car," confesses Mrs Ball.

A BRITISH "Freedom of Scotland" poster depicts an idyllic Scottish scene, inviting travellers to "go where you like, when you like." A mole identifies the scene as part of the British Undercover Weapons Research Establishment — there is, indeed, a navy torpedo trials base in the area, the Kyle of Lochalsh. A somewhat sensitive piece of territory and one in which the general public might not travel quite as freely as it might otherwise do. "It is a navy pier in the picture, but I wouldn't know what happens there," confirmed a BR spokesman.

POLICE Review got into trouble recently for publishing an editorial calling for the legalisation of cannabis. Those who have not hitherto appreciated the perils of the drug should read a reply in this week's letters column from a Leatherhead policeman pointing out that cannabis is a "deadly substance." This is on account of various African civilisations being annihilated because the drug robbed them of their strength and moral fibre. "A similar purpose," speculates the writer, "could be behind the trafficking of cannabis to European states, particularly to our country. There is more than one way of exterminating a nation." There now, Police Review should be ashamed of itself.

EVER topical in his wit, Mr Dennis Skinner has taken to referring to the Prime Minister as Madam Sukarno.

BRENT East politics do not grow any simpler. The latest twist takes the form of a Stop Ken leadership campaign aimed at members of the General Management Committee. "When Reg Fresson described Ken Livingstone as a left-wing opportunist many of us agreed," runs the sheet. "We felt however that Brent East would be able to keep him under some kind of control. This has proved to be an illusion. If we are serious about accountability it is necessary that we reject Livingstone as a candidate in Brent East."

The anonymous attack, which is thought to originate from the Trotskyist Socialist Organiser-dominated Carlton Branch of the party, derives from Ken's behaviour over the GLC rate-capping vote. It acknowledges that it is too late to find an alternative candidate before selection at the end of the month, but urges the committee to vote against having any kind of selection at all in order further to discuss Ken's qualities.

"When someone sells out a struggle the usual procedure is to at least censure them and if possible remove them from office. It is a strange kind of control which involves promotion to the highest office of MP." The leaflet ends up describing Ken as an "able and dangerous opportunist who could throw back the social direction of our party for many years." Ken must be beginning to know how Neil Kinnock feels sometimes.

THE Dyfed and Powsy police got through the most difficult year in their history without a single complaint against them by a miner. Why so? The Chief Constable, Mr R. S. Thomas, says in his annual report it is partly because of the relationships between Welsh-speaking miners and Welsh-speaking police. Almost Neumanesque. There must be a PhD thesis there somewhere.

Alan Rusbridger

THE HILL from which Phnom Penh gets its name is a rocky outcrop with a temple on top. The bonfire and pavilion around Wat Phnom were a favourite spot for fortune tellers. Young couples would seek out these wise men to ask what they should do to get on well together. The fortune tellers would first ask their dates of birth, then tell them to burn incense sticks and pray silently for what they wanted to know.

The crowds around the hill formed into groups of girls and boys and they would enjoy singing contests in which insults and compliments were passed from group to group. They made up the words, using any tune that came to their heads.

There were riddles too. A girl would challenge. "Tell me, what is there between your navel and the top of your legs?" As the boy went pink she would give the answer. "Your belt."

They were also a game played blindfold, in which you were obliged to take three swipes in the direction of a hanging clay jar. If your stick broke the jar, dark red liquid would pour all over your clothes.

Even before the war it was unsafe to travel through the countryside during the night, because of the gangs of robbers, and so, as often as not, we would set out early the next morning to go to our little ten-hectare estate near Kompong Som. We had an old Land-Rover. My parents and the youngest child would sit in the front. My sisters, my little brothers and myself sat facing each other on two little benches in the back.

We were always excited to get out of Phnom Penh, and it was our custom to stop in the first bit of countryside at the junction of routes three and four. Over a breakfast of noodle soup, my sisters would ask which road we were going to take. The quickest way was route four. But our favourite was route three, since it passed so many beautiful villages and rice fields.

But the first major point of interest was Prasath Neang Khmao, the Temple of the Black Lady. This was a 14th-century construction, dedicated to the memory of a woman of mysterious powers. She was in love with the king. Every night she would appear to him to warn him of any plot against the throne, and everyone she accused, even the king's own relatives, would be executed the next day.

On the outside of the temple there were bas-reliefs of battle scenes in which the Cambodians were engaged against the Thais or the Chams, our traditional enemies. Inside, the atmosphere was heavy with candle smoke, incense and the smell of the flowers which the sightseers left as offerings to the ancient statue of the Buddha. We said our prayers, left our offerings and then wandered around the grounds.

On March 18, 1970, the Si-hanouk regime was overthrown and Cambodia very quickly became involved in war. We had already given up our trips to the country, because reports in local newspapers made it clear that the roads were unsafe by day and night. My father was optimistic about the Lon Nol regime, particularly as it included the figure he most admired, Sam Ngoc Thanh.

Like Thanh, we were ethnic Cambodians from South Vietnam. My father worked as a doctor at the military hospital and my mother was a secretary in the Ministry of Information. For New Year 1970, we spent the usual day at the pagoda, followed by parties, Channel 4, friends, trips to the cinema and the traditional celebrations around Wat Phnom.

In the following years, my parents spent more and more of each birthday week at the pagoda, while I, as a student, became more and more independent. I would take my little Honda and go round town with my friends for a series of parties. But by April 1975 there was nothing to celebrate. The city was surrounded by the Khmer Rouge. Everywhere was a stink of gunpowder, rockets, and my father began building up supplies of dried foods in the house, because it was unsafe to go to the market. My brother and I had had a desk job in the



A decade after their triumph in Phnom Penh, the Khmer Rouge's hold has been broken but the fighting goes on (above); a grisly testament to a regime (below) pictures by Camera Press

It is ten years since Phnom Penh fell. Someth May looks back

Memoir of a survivor from Year Zero



Lon Nol army, and now my father began to tell him to get rid of any military paraphernalia from the house. The rifles and pistols that he proudly took to work, and which he never used.

I was 18 at the time, a medical student hoping to follow in my father's footsteps. I had a part-time job waiting on foreign and Cambodian journalists at an open-air cafe called, importantly, the Grouching Table Restaurant and Cocktail Bar. On April 12, we hardly saw the foreigners at breakfast time. They were all rushing off to the American Embassy for the helicopter evacuation. We had given generous, if inaccurate, credit, and most of them forgot to pay their bills. After they left, a rocket landed in the house next door, and the upper wall collapsed outwards.

That was my last day at the Grouching Table. I went home and stayed at home for the New Year, which came the next day. I had been listening in secret to the radio, my sisters and I thought that when they came in a few leaders would be executed but that the majority of the population would be all right. However, many of the journalists had reported atrocities by the Khmer Rouge, and when I thought of the way the Lon Nol soldiers had treated their prisoners, I had no doubt that bloodbath did seem to be

strong. Friends of my father who visited the house were pessimistic, but my father did not believe them. He knew how low the morale in the Lon Nol army was, and he thought that the soldiers would simply give up fighting, and that everything would be right. Or, at least that is what he said.

At about seven o'clock on the morning of the 15th, General Dien Del, a friend of my father, arrived at our house and asked to see my father alone in his room. They talked for 15 minutes, then the General came out, said a hurried goodbye to us and left by jeep with his personal bodyguard. My father was very gloomy and restless. He was very much alone in his thoughts because my mother had left a month before, saying that she was going to America for her work. There were 15 people in our family. Although I did not then know it, my father had just refused an opportunity to go with Dien Del on his helicopter.

The following day, the rocketing was such that we could not go out. My father sat in his room listening to the prayers broadcast over the radio. My sisters and I listened to tapes on our Philips machine. My little brothers were involved in a bet-fitting game which involved throwing rubber bands into squares marked on the floor.

On April 17, slightly delayed we finally — and for the first time in five years — made our traditional trip to the country. That morning my father switched on the radio, but there was only martial music. The streets were silent in the early morning. Nobody left their houses.

At eight o'clock we heard shelling and gunfire from the south-east of the city. My father said nothing. He was watching my sisters playing tapes, apparently unconcerned. Later, the gunfire ceased abruptly and the radio went dead. We saw soldiers in shorts, stripped of their uniforms, rushing past the house. The Republic had collapsed.

When the Khmer Rouge came about an hour later, I went out and stood at the gate. People were cheering and waving their improvised white flags. The Khmer Rouge looked severe and their guns were at the ready. Many of them were younger than me. They would ask if anybody knew the whereabouts of the Republican officers, and if people said yes they would be told to accompany the troops. They were looking above all for the Seven Traitors, against whom all their propaganda had been directed.

Two jeeps came along, the first with a mounted machine gun. Children of the district were running along shouting and laughing. Somebody from the first jeep

called through a megaphone to tell everyone to bring any weapons they had and put them in the second jeep. My neighbours came out and did so. Just as a new group of Khmer Rouge were arriving, my father called me back into the house. The Khmer Rouge followed me, asked for the head of the family, and questioned my father as to whether any of us was in the military. My father by now seemed to have recovered himself; he was calm and answered all their inquiries with a firm denial.

The man who did all the questioning told us we must leave the city at once. The Americans were going to bomb it. We were to pack up emergency supplies for a few days — but not too much. The evacuation would only be for a short while, and then we would be allowed back. There were other reasons for clearing the city — to find the remaining enemies and to round up the chief traitors in Tan, Long Boreth, Sirik Matak, Chheng Heng and Lon Nol (who had in fact left months before).

We dithered for a while. My brother-in-law, who seemed to sense no danger to himself, suggested to me that he and I stay on to guard the property while the others went. I approached my father on this point and he told me not to be such a fool. We had already been told that if we stayed on in the city we would be "res-

ponsible for our own safety." By mid-afternoon we were loading up the Land Rover. It was as if my father had done all the planning that my mother used to do. He had got together plenty of rice, dried fish, salt, tinned food, containers of water, a spare can of petrol, blankets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, pots and pans, plates and spoons. My sisters put in my diaries and my favourite books: Orwell's *Animal Farm*, Eric Williams's *The Wooden Horse*, Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, a French textbook called *Mauger* and an English grammar. My father seemed to take nothing.

We set out on exactly the same route as we would have taken all those years ago, among crowds of people who were shouting out, trying not to lose contact with their families. My father drove very slowly with the children in the car. The adults walked alongside through the heat of the day. We passed the mutilated bodies of soldiers, and families who had been shot for refusing to leave their houses. After four hours we had covered about two kilometres. This was the first checkpoint, and very frightening. They took some medicines, my watch and the tape-recorder.

On the second day we reached Pochentong market, and waited with the milling

crowd to see what would happen next. On the third day we were forced to move on. We got as far as the soup shop where routes three and four divide — our favourite breakfast stop. Here my father and all of us buried our identification cards. Route four was blocked. People were already leaving their cars by the roadside having run out of petrol. We pushed on, after a couple of days' wait — we still had a faint hope that we might be allowed back to Phnom Penh.

It was on route three that I realised we were going to the country for ever. It was here too that I saw a man confess to having been a doctor. He was taken off, and the next day, as I was looking for water, I found his corpse. After about three weeks, during much of which we had been pushing the Land-Rover, for lack of petrol, we decided to abandon the vehicle altogether. We had been thoroughly checked about ten times, but no military material had been found. Others were less fortunate. They were taken off over the fields, out of sight, and we would hear gunshots. All in all, it took us about a month and a half, instead of an hour and a half, to get to Prasath Neang Khmao, the Temple of the Black Lady. By now supplies were running short and people were stealing from each other. When signs broke out among the civilians, both sides were taken away by the Khmer Rouge. The old people were already dying along the way, in a dry, devastated landscape with a hard once been so green and delightful. When we had first set off, some people had seemed quite cheerful, but now nobody was.

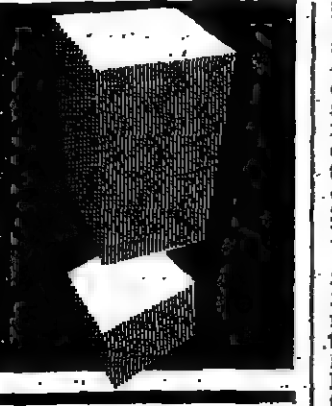
The Temple of the Black Lady had become the first registration office for the evacuees. The carvings on the outside wall had been badly damaged by the rain. Inside, the big statue was still in place, but all the others had been stacked around the walls. Armed men in neat black uniforms watched us constantly as we placed our belongings at one end of the room. Two soldiers sat at a small wooden table and we were told to sit on the floor in front of them. My father said to the interrogators that we were farmers, somebody at the other end of the room tipped off my books and shouted: "What are these? What are they all about?" My father picked up *The Wooden Horse* and pretended to read it very carefully. He was holding it upside down. I looked at my father and saw that he was stuck for words. "Those books belong to me, comrades," I said. "I picked them up on the road. I thought they would be good for rolling tobacco."

"Well," said the soldier reading, "Eric Williams' leaves where you're going. You don't need this junk." And he took *The Wooden Horse* and threw it into the corner. My father went on to a huge pile of photographs and money.

This was as far as we went on the road to our old estate. After that, we were taken to a village and labour camps. My father survived about ten weeks before he was taken, tortured and killed. The younger members of my family died of disease and malnutrition in due course. Someday the great farm manager, and her husband couldn't cope with the farming. They were put with other sick people into a field and killed. Another sister, Mealea, criticised the regime and suffered the consequences. Of the 15 family members who set out, four of us escaped to Thailand. My father was the last one in charge of the family. In order to survive, I became a liar, a thief, a smuggler, a refugee and a stateless person.

The Khmer Rouge abolished the New Year festival in favour of the Glorious Seventh of April, and it has been a long time since I have thought about those traditional celebrations and the fun we had. The blackest man took three swipes at the clay jar above his head. If the jar broke, his clothes were drenched with red liquid. The Khmer Rouge took three swipes at Phnom Penh. The city broke, and all our blood spilled out over the land.

This is an edited extract from an article in the current issue of *The New Republic*.



ENDPIECE Roy Hattersley

I STAYED up late on Easter Sunday watching All About Eve flickering away in faded black and white on Channel 4. Had I not seen the film before, I doubt if my concentration would have

survived the commercial break. But I watched it for a second time — after a gap of 35 years — with the hairs on the back of my hands standing up as a mark of respect for the dead innocence of evenings spent in the Hillsborough Park Cinema, Phoenix, Capital Union Street and Besside, Sheffield Lane Top.

They were not evenings spent in mindless amusement. Certainly, I enjoyed myself. But I enjoyed myself to some purpose. My mission, in the one-and-nines, was to learn the secrets of sophistication which would one day ease my path into bright, brittle, brilliant society. At the City Grammar School, they seemed to worry only about Milton and Thackeray. I worried about them too. But to make the most of my literary talent I needed advice on the length of hair, width of trouser, thickness of sole and vulgarity of the worn by the international smart set. I had no doubt that Hollywood could teach me.

It was from *All About Eve* that I learned that genuine intellects (like play-wrights and stage directors) wear pullovers, tweed jackets and bow-ties, whilst phoney ones (like weekly columnists) affect three-piece suits and signet rings. However, it was — as you would expect — the weekly columnist who produced the memorable lines. George Sanders (alias Addison De Witt, the cynical New York drama critic) sat on the stairs next to the young Marilyn Monroe and totally blinded my friends and me to her bland politeness.

It was De Witt's repartee, not his companion, which we envied. "You have a point," Michael Bealey would say to me as I offered a comment on *Paradise Lost* or *Vanity Fair*. "A ridiculous point, but a point nevertheless."

I do not want you to imagine that we young men of the lower sixth passed our school days insulated from the vicarious dilution of scandalous sex. In *All About Eve*, Bettie Davis — despite the dashing swish of her New Look skirts — left us unmoved. For she played the

part of fading star, Margo Channing, who must have been well into her thirties and was, therefore, too decrepit to attract respectable attention. Anne Baxter as the ambitious understudy, Eve Harrington, seemed one of us. Indeed, there was a girl just like her in 5b who refused point blank to have anything to do with me. Time is a great healer. Last Sunday night I could not remember her name.

But even before I saw *All About Eve*, a second time, the lessons which it taught me were at the front of my mind. Its central message was clear. Smart and sophisticated people drink a great deal and shout at each other a lot. On the evidence of the film they do not about anything very smart or sophisticated. Indeed, during our third form primitive period Michael Bealey and I had regularly produced satires of comparable wit. "Tell us the news not history," we would crushingly insist, and "Who's she when she's washed?" we would demand with a superior sneer.

But smart and sophisticated people seemed to be able to abuse each other — at least upon the silver-plated screen — with a conviction which we could neither feel nor counterfeit. So we just copied the words and mannerisms. "Fasten your seat belts," I would snarl, "we're in for a bumpy night," unmoved by the knowledge that it was four o'clock in the afternoon. I suppose that I knew about seat belts, though the only aeroplane which I had ever seen had tried to drop bombs on us. But there were whole passages in the film concerning Celeste Holme's education at Radcliffe and the favourite restaurants of New York theatrical society which must have been as comprehensible as passages of dialogue in Polish.

The Polish dialogue came two years later at the University Film Society. But there, at least, I had the good grace to feel embarrassed by my preposterous pretensions. During my Hollywood days, waiting for some of its glitter to be pol-

ished off on to me seemed as solemn a duty as rubbing linseed oil into my bat and only writing in the margin of the Warwick Hamlet with a pencil so that it could be rubbed out in July and next year's student would not be confused by my misinterpretation of the Notes and Glossary. The enchantment was total. When I was doing School Certificate Art, I saw Robert Mitcham as the struggling painter in *The Lockett*. For weeks instead of buckling the belt of my blue gaberdine raincoat, I tied it in a knot.

I flatter myself that I survived the period without any major psychological or social injuries. There were moments of great conflict with my family. Indeed, I briefly believed that my relationship with my father would not recover from my stated (though unfulfilled) intention of going to the Wesley Church Youth Club wearing cricket flannels and knotted handkerchief in open imitation of Gene Kelly in *American in Paris*.

But that phase, like all

other phases passed. And what desire I ever had to be an unsuccessful painter has now completely disappeared. It was all what my mother would call "a phase" and miraculously I escaped its one habit-forming aspect.

I noticed last Sunday evening that, circa 1951, intellectuals — as well as drinking a great deal and shouting a lot — smoked almost all the time. How, I must add, I escaped an addiction more terrible than drinking and shouting. It worried me for almost 48 hours. And then, on Easter Tuesday, as a I sat nervously waiting for the late night news I remembered the answer. There was an C.P., not an angel, on my shoulder. I had no intention of losing my chance of playing for Sheffield Wednesday by sacrificing my wind — just to prove that I was tough and willing and entitled to wear a pullover and bow tie. We beat Manchester United last week and as I heard the result I realised how admirable my teenage standard of values had been.

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David Hemery and Bob Scott at the Coliseum, home of the Los Angeles Raiders

Three weeks in the Dorchester, a couple of nights at the Royal Opera House, a banquet at Buckingham Palace and a reception at Windsor — these are the major factors that will lure the 1992 Olympic Games to London. Or so it is said. Throw in Wembley Stadium — or more persuasively perhaps, an exceedingly distant photograph of the stadium — and maybe a Saturday afternoon or two at Stamford Bridge, and it's a foregone conclusion. . . . Meanwhile, the Manchester bid for the 1992 Games becomes more realistic week by week. Bob Scott, who is leading the Manchester initiative, describes how they've signed up the international firm of accountants who were so successful in running the Los Angeles Games; and the visit a Manchester delegation has already made to Los Angeles to examine in detail how they did it.

How the Olympics were a disaster for Disneyland — and are moving steadily towards Manchester

TWELVE MILLION people within an hour's drive of the city centre, a capitalist stronghold, administered by a left wing city council; one city in the middle of a line of cities in a 70-mile stretch, separated by wild country and joined by splendid freeways; the sporting capital of the nation; a city plagued by provincial doubts and forever contesting the unfair advantages grabbed by the capital city at the other end of the country. You may recognise Manchester from the description. It is also a precise description of Los Angeles.

After four hectic days in L.A. I am certain that Manchester would be as good a host city in the Olympic Games in 1992 as Los Angeles was in 1984. In an article here a month ago, I said that Los Angeles was Manchester's inspiration. Going to Los Angeles was obviously the immediate aim. The problem was, whom to make contact with?

Almost casually, I discovered the key, the international firm of accountants, Arthur Young, who have a considerable presence in Manchester and whose Los Angeles office were effectively the business managers of the Los Angeles games. One phone call revealed that the secrets of the organisation of the 1984 games were held in the Arthur Young offices on the 25th floor of the Atlantic Richfield Building in downtown Los Angeles. Two meetings with Arthur Young in Manchester secured exclusive assistance in supporting the Manchester bid and opening up the Los Angeles treasure house.

Three days later, three Arthur Young partners, David Hemery, the Mexico City gold medalist, and I were on our way to Los Angeles. There was an immediate irritation. We all had to fly to Heathrow to start our journey. Admittedly, the Heathrow chaos was a forcible reminder

of the problems London will enjoy if they attempt to host the games, but it felt a bad omen.

We arrived at 4 pm local time, midnight our time, and went straight into our initial briefing with our host for the visit, Michael Mouni, senior consulting partner for Arthur Young in Los Angeles, who had been vice-president for Support Operations for the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee. Our second day was spent meeting various vice-presidents of the organising committee itself, hearing about the problems in organising facilities, the unbelievable technological infrastructure, transportation, the handling of the 10,000 accredited press, security, and financial control. We sat in the same office for nine hours meeting one of the most impressive groups of people I have ever encountered.

The discoveries were awesome, but thrilling. The over-

whelming sense was that a slumbering summer city like Manchester would be able to cope, whereas a filled-to-bursting tourist centre like London would not, or at least would suffer grievously from the superimposition of the numbers involved over and above the normal tourism.

The figures were mind boggling. There were 75,000 people involved in the Los Angeles games. The costs were 40 million dollars, the vast majority of which was spent in the year leading up to the Games. Twenty, or was it 25, million dollars was spent on food. Twenty thousand security personnel were involved. Seven million tickets were for sale. The likely profit was 240 million dollars.

The third day started with breakfast with the splendidly named attorney, John Argue, chairman of the Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games, the body that made the bid to bring the

games to Los Angeles, as opposed to the organising committee which ran them. Los Angeles had bid for the games every year since 1948.

They were clear favourites for the 1976 games, which finally went to Montreal as a compromise between the superpower battle between Los Angeles and Moscow. Los Angeles' position in 1977, it seemed to me, was exactly that of Manchester's in 1984.

It was in 1977 that the United States Olympic Committee had to decide which of five competing American cities — Atlanta, Detroit, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York — would be the American bidding city. The choice narrowed down to a head-to-head battle between New York and Los Angeles, as may well happen in Britain in 1985 between London and Manchester. Los Angeles was up against east coast bias and the fact that the city was not a major city. As John Argue said, "It was the toughest battle we ever had." They

won by a 9-8 vote. Getting the 1984 games was simple in comparison with getting the American nomination.

The rest of the third day was taken up with visiting stadium and facilities. The one huge advantage Los Angeles has over Manchester is the Coliseum, the magnificent home of the LA Raiders; but they had no village, only moderately relevant indoor stadium, and there was no hotel in the city you could not walk into and book a room for the night during any day of the games. Indeed, the organising committee had to face a bill of \$5 million dollars at the end of the games for hotel rooms they had reserved, then released, but which were not taken up.

We have assumed all along that the shortage of first class hotels in Manchester would be a profound problem. We do not take that view now. How

succeeded despite the eastern block boycott.

The fourth morning was spent assembling the pounds of paper we had accumulated, and following up the almost endless stream of questions that sprang from our meetings and visits. The most interesting lessons came from the unexpected problems that arose. Ordinary tourism in Los Angeles simply dried up during the games. The games were a disaster for Disneyland, and there was no hotel in the city you could not walk into and book a room for the night during any day of the games. Indeed, the organising committee had to face a bill of \$5 million dollars at the end of the games for hotel rooms they had reserved, then released, but which were not taken up.

We have assumed all along that the shortage of first class hotels in Manchester would be a profound problem. We do not take that view now. How

did Los Angeles cope with all the international visitors? The answer is that there were very few, and although attendances at the events were packed out, it was the locals who went — again, a point fiercely in the favour of Manchester with its colossal catchment area and its sports mad audience.

Perhaps the best moment of the visit was when a delegation from the Amsterdam Bid Committee phoned through to seek meetings with Arthur Young. "Sorry," they were told, "we are talking only to Manchester."

We returned convinced that Manchester is the ideal venue for the British games, perfectly situated in the middle of the country, served by an international gateway airport, with the best infrastructure of road and rail access links. With great difficulty Los Angeles took on New York and won. We are rolling up our sleeves. We too believe we will win.

The socialist playwright fell for the infinitely mysterious men in grey flannels and green jackets and came up with Wetherby. This may be an excellent film, but could it really have originated in a Yorkshire pub, asks Albert Hunt.

Hare's nest



David Hare

SOCIALIST PLAYWRIGHT and film maker David Hare described in the Guardian interview how he arrived at the theme of his prize-winning movie, *Wetherby*. He sat in pubs and wide bars in Yorkshire, he said, and watched men in grey flannels and green jackets and women in two-piece suits who were "infinitely more mysterious" than the "exotic creatures" he knew in London.

Most films, he said, showed such people as "rather limited in their intelligence, desires and imagination", and dismissed them as "bourgeois souls". His film claimed that they were "as full of passion and feeling as opera singers". It was meant to be about "what it's like to live in England now for a lot of people."

I live in Yorkshire myself, I happen to be trying to record on video "what it's like to live in England now", and I like to spend part of Saturday or Sunday lunch-time in a country pub just outside Halifax. I go there, not because I'm looking for material for a film, but because I like the place and the beer — it's a local Keightley brew — and because I like listening to the talk. I found myself wondering how David Hare would see us all. Would we be "infinitely mysterious" or simply "bourgeois souls"?

spend more than fifteen grand on a car. Later he said, "Let's face it — a Volvo's an estate car." He said it with the air of a film maker directing someone as a bourgeois soul.

The man who liked a Mercedes wasn't wearing grey flannels and a green jacket. He was wearing a V-shaped pullover and an open necked shirt. You don't see many grey jackets at the pub, and you don't see many two-piece suits either. But there are a lot of expensive looking sweaters about. And there are several young men who wear jeans.

Their wives wear jeans too, and often they have very young children with them. The wives all sit in a corner beneath a row of plates memorising local chapel anniversaries, and show off their babies to each other. I suppose the babies are a product of passion and feeling, but I don't know what business that is of mine — or of David Hare's.

I like listening to the talk in the pub because I'm interested in the stories people tell, and I like the way they use words. The day I read the David Hare interview, an old man said: "My brother had been a professional footballer who also played rugby union (infinitely mysterious). The old man said: 'My brother never smoked or drank, but he was a devout gambler.' (It liked that word 'devout'.) He and his wife would sit at the living room window and bet on the number of the next car to go past." The landlord — an amiable mountain of a man — said that his grandfather had been a bookmaker. "And he always used to say, if ever you feel like putting a pound on a horse, make sure the pound's in your pocket and that you're

on the horse's back." I liked that saying too.

That afternoon, a young couple with a tiny girl were entertaining another young couple with obvious ease, from outside Yorkshire. The little girl was staring at me over the back of her chair with big round eyes. The father was saying, "What would you like to eat tonight? We've got both beef and rump steak in the freezer. You can have pepper steak, but you'd better put the pepper on yourselves." I said hello to the little girl and she turned quickly away. And at that moment, Harold and Emma came into the pub.

I can't imagine how David Hare would define Harold and Emma. They always arrive half an hour before closing time in the afternoon. They come in a yellow V registered Polski that looks like the Lada. I used to try to park the Polski next to the Lada so that the people who talked about Mercedes and Volvos could see the two cars crumbling away side by side.

Harold and Emma always come into the pub together, but then they go and sit at opposite ends of the bar. Emma says, "You don't come out to talk to the same old face, do you?" If you ask Emma how she is, she always says, "I'm well except for old age." Harold says, "I'm all right for an old youth." I'd never had any idea how old they were until Emma once told me, "My husband's never seen the sea and he's 76."

Harold was wearing, as always, his old grey trousers, the waistcoat and jacket of a very faded blue pin-stripe suit, and a flat cloth cap. Emma had on her short suede coat trimmed with fur — for all I know, both suede and fur may be genuine. Harold bought her a drink and then she came across and said to me, "I'll come and sit with

you for a bit. You don't come out to talk to the same old face, do you?"

I asked her how she was and she said she was well except for old age, and then she nodded towards the prospective looking group that always form a circle near the bar. She said, "You see that man. That man owes me £400. I'm going to tell on him some time."

The man was standing next to one of the few women who actually does wear a two-piece suit in the pub. She was talking about a meal she'd had in the most expensive hotel in Halifax.

I couldn't imagine how Emma had come to lend the man by the bar £400, but she went on, "I let him stay in one of my houses, and he never paid the rent."

Now I'd never thought of Emma as a property owner before — I'd always thought of her as the person who looked after my money. The first time she'd spoken to me, she'd pointed out that I'd dropped a pound note on the floor. I'd thanked her and bought her a Guinness. "No need for that," she said, but she was obviously pleased and patted my bottom. A few weeks later she came up and whispered that I'd dropped a five pound note. "That man just picked it up and paid for his round with it," I didn't really think I'd dropped a five pound note and I didn't want a drama anyway, so I told her it didn't matter, and she patted my bottom again.

She and Harold, she said, had lived in the small farm for forty years. "It cost eleven hundred when we bought it and we've just been offered six thousand for it. But what would we want with money at our age? They'd always wanted six children, but 'none came.' They still kept animals, though. 'I give them all names and they know when I'm calling them. But I get a funny feeling in my throat when it's time for them to go. Harold took the last lot to market a week or two ago. He was going to buy some more from a man in Otley, but the man wanted to sell him ten and we only have room for seven."

The little girl was staring at me again over the back of her chair. Suddenly she said, "Hello," and then turned quickly away. I heard her mother say, "I have to get up early on Monday morning — I'm signing on at half past nine." Perhaps the man with the rump steak wasn't her husband after all, but that was none of my business.

David Hare had sat in his Yorkshire pub and decided that the people he saw were "as full of passion and feeling as opera singers." Most of the opera singers I heard traded in faded-up passion. David Hare had gone off and dreamed up a mystery about a lonely Yorkshire school-teacher and a postgraduate student who came to her house uninvited. Then he'd signed up Vanessa Redgrave to play the part of the school-mistress. And wasn't Vanessa Redgrave one of the "exotic creatures" he'd found so lacking in mystery in London? And why had he "re-created a piece of Yorkshire in a field in Rickmansworth"? Infinitely mysterious.

I noticed Emma's glass was empty, so I went to the bar and got her a Guinness. "No need for that," she said. She couldn't pat my bottom because I was sitting down.

British Rail has had a bad year for accidents: 18 people have been killed, and the bill amounts to £8 million. But this week's news of new safety measures doesn't tackle the root of the problem according to Clive Groome, a former train driver with 25 years' experience.

Why train drivers fall into a hypnotic trance

TRAIN DRIVERS are employed to carry out their duties in a responsible and alert manner, to obey fixed signals and run their trains to time, calling at booked stops, and paying due regard to speed restrictions. Which seems straightforward enough.

The problem is that some trains don't stop where they should, and others stop where they shouldn't. Speed restrictions are grossly exceeded (Morphet, 1983) and a terminal station was entered at 65 mph (Paddington, 1983). These kinds of mistakes are on the increase, in spite of firm action by railway management.

What is going on? Are the modern train drivers less responsible than those of the past? The answer, of course, is no.

Most of them are still the same men who were driving steam trains twenty or so years ago. Here, indeed, lies a clue. A steam driver was faced with countless problems during a day's work: poor visibility, variations in the performance of engine and fireman, and the physical effort needed to adjust controls. Catching hasty glimpses of signals between hurries of steam, the fireman, whilst belabouring against the heaving footplate. He needed a calm phlegmatic nature.

This very calmness may be his undoing today. His workplace has become an enclosed capsule, he is cocooned from reality; speed means nothing, load and gradient are nothing. His contact with the elements is curtailed. The glasshouse effect of the modern cab numbs apprehension, even in conditions of fog and falling snow which puts the driver in position of considerable uncertainty.

In more normal weather, a dreamlike condition arises. When running on a moonless night toward a badly lit station deep in the country, 50 mph is just a number on the speedometer; it has little significance. The driver watches the speedo, the brake gauge, and eventually, the approaching station. Little

sense of motion is felt; he might as well be docking a space capsule.

Seated comfortably, changes of position barred by cab design and the need to keep the driver's safety device depressed, his head held fixed by eyes staring unwinkingly forward, the driver is a prime subject for a hypnotic trance.

A driver these days is just the cheapest flexible computer available to transform light signals into motor action. Unmoving, he sits registering and converting a huge part of his brain into a cry from the days when signals took only a part of his concentration. In this condition, an effort is needed to break the spell and alter the decision making area of the brain. What is happening is familiar to those involved in putting men in space.

Behavioural psychologists know how to describe it: "The nervous system is stimulated by differences in stimuli, whose varying electrical impulses continually flash through the system. Static muscular activity and unvarying visual stimulation provide monotonous signals to the central nervous system. This results in a perceptible reduction of activity in the decision making area of the brain. It can also result in both visual and auditory hallucinations."

So instances of station over-running, misjudged speed restrictions and, in some cases, the passing of signals at danger, can happen when sensory input falls below a critical level.

Much the same thing has happened on the flight deck and ship's bridge. Modern drivers are physically alone, and for many hours a day. After not talking to anyone for up to six hours on some duties, the driver's facial muscles become stiff with disuse.

Only an actual driver can know the difficulty of staying alert. Doctors or inspectors seeking to study the effects alter the conditions by their very presence. An observer, by definition, can never be alone; he is never alone for the number of hours that the

driver is, he is never retracing a route for the Nth time.

Union leaders, one might imagine, would keep these factors in mind when agreeing to extended rosters, shortened meal breaks, and surrendered mileage agreements. They might also think of the added strain on drivers who are compelled to work seven days a week as a result of inadequate wages. Most union negotiators have not driven trains with any regularity for many years. The supervisors whose job it is to investigate erring drivers are also removed early in their careers from the actual day-to-day driving.

The problem of staying alert has become a kind of torture. This torture is compounded when the driver's safety device is redesigned in such a way as to require resetting every half minute. Drivers of heavy goods vehicles on motorways also drift into trance-like states, notwithstanding the need to steer and cope with other vehicles. Many stop for a break at service stations, and pick up hitch-hikers, to solve the problem.

The job of train driving cannot be made interesting again. How can it be made safer? Those who suggest an endlessly resetting safety device should ask themselves whether they have never fallen asleep at the wheel of a car on a motorway? Wasn't this in spite of the need to steer and make continual small adjustments to controls? The human being must not be expected to perform as a robot. The fact that modern trains can race at 100 mph between cities may, theoretically, double the work that can be performed in a shift, but the limits of human endurance are being breached. The results are to be found in the rail disasters of late.

So, the rostering of train drivers must be humanised. Hours must be reduced, or the driver once again be given a mate to share his vigil. The human mind cannot cope with sensory deprivation over long periods. A maximum of six hours actual driving might be set, with a limit of 200 miles.

If you've got any money hidden under the bed, now's the time to get it working



SATURDAY NOTEBOOK

BANK interest rates, were this week leaping back to their old levels, but building societies were busy doing the same in the opposite direction, during one of the most frenetic weeks the savings and mortgage markets have seen for many years.

Barclays and Midland cut their base lending rates 0.5 per cent to 12.75 per cent, a quarter per cent below NatWest and Lloyds, which had themselves jumped below their rivals in late March. Base rates are as

much as 1.25 per cent below the level of budget day, and some of the bank deposit rates have also followed downwards.

Meanwhile the building societies were continuing their spectacular competition to see who could offer the highest interest rates to depositors. Newspapers have been treated to an advertising bonanza as societies have shouted out the merits of their latest super-gold bonus-saver accounts, some of them moving their rates upwards as many as three times in a few weeks.

For savers, life has never been better, and the old advice never borrow but save has been true. Because to pay for their generosity to savers, who are getting the highest true interest rates after inflation since the 1920s, the societies have pushed their mortgage rates to a painful 14 per cent plus. The societies are paying deposits over 10 per cent net of basic rate tax, which costs them more in interest before tax than some of the rates they are offering to their home loan borrowers. The result is that they are making virtually no return on

their money to cover the costs of administration and management.

So how is it that the two biggest types of savings institution in the country, the banks and the building societies, are going in such different directions?

The answer must lie with the differences in the market forces which are driving banks and building societies. Banks have a large part of their business with industry and with the international money markets. This commercial work is subject to the pressures of international market movements, especially the fluctuations of the foreign exchange and government economic policy.

The Government has a tremendous impact on interest rates, by setting monetary targets and attempting to control money growth through a variety of techniques, including interest rates and sales of gilts to the public. Lately it has been using high interest rates to raise up sterling's value which helps keep the price of imports down. Having deliberately given market interest rates up to 14 per cent, the Chancellor

has made it clear in public that 13 per cent, the rate set by NatWest and Lloyds, is for the moment enough to maintain the strength of the pound by attracting funds from other currencies with lower interest rates.

So for a mixture of political and international market reasons, the clearing banks' interest rates are on a slow downward trend. NatWest's chief economist Mr David Kern said yesterday that he expected base rates down to 12 per cent by mid-year and 10 per cent by the end of the year.

Because they expect this to happen, the banks have so far held out against the usual policy of following the societies on mortgage rates, and so they missed the last round of increases and are now slightly cheaper.

However there is one area where they meet the societies head on in the battle for personal savers' money: this is the premium savings account, paying above deposit rates, often attached to a cheque book or other special scheme. The banks have been forced to keep their rates high even while their other deposit and lending rates have come down, to

feed off the building societies.

But the societies are driven not so much by the money market forces which govern banks — though they reflect those indirectly — as by a narrow need to attract enough deposits to meet mortgage demand.

A couple of years ago building societies pledged themselves to bring an end to mortgage queues for ever. Their policy is now to make sure they always have enough money on their books to meet the demand from their borrowers.

Government policy that everyone should own their own home has reduced the opportunities for those who wish to rent. Therefore the potential pool of borrowers is larger than ever.

This switch of emphasis has put building societies in the position they are today: offering stunningly high interest rates when the trend elsewhere is downwards. Yesterday's figures from the Building Societies Association showed how urgently they needed to pay higher rates.

A mere £214 million in flow during March, and that

only rescued by the announcement of higher rates to come in April, is one quarter the amount needed to meet mortgage demand.

Societies have options other than increasing their rates: they can raise money on the wholesale market or they can dig into reserves. They have been doing both.

Mostly they have found the money to hand out in home loans by eating into liquidity: at 17.4 per cent this is the lowest figure for many years and will fall still lower this month as the inflow starts its rocky climb back to the level needed to match demand.

So, do the generous rates being paid to savers automatically mean higher charges for borrowers? If we were prepared to accept home loan shortages from time to time would we be paying less overall?

An interesting phenomenon in the latest round of building society rate rises is that they have all happened since, and independently of, the official Building Society Association's council concordat.

While the BSA no longer sets rates, nor even advises

them, the agreed view that savings rates should go up by 0.75 per cent survived but some societies have added another 1.5 per cent.

This has not been funded by a matching increase in mortgage rates which across the board went up by 1 per cent.

Moreover, there would be customer resistance to paying 15 per cent or more for home loans so demand would disappear anyway.

There is good and bad in this: the societies have not looked at raising their rates yet again, which would cause uproar. Yet it is a fact that their narrow concentration on inflows for setting mortgage rates is actually putting technical upward pressure on their rates now, while bank base rates have come down for the third time in a row. It is only the belief that the banks will soon start shaving the rates on their competing savings products which has stopped talk of another mortgage rise.

The third of the triad fighting for our money is National Savings: invariably the last to move, not least because the lumbering machinery of government is involved, it usually hits the middle course.

The variable interest rates have just been increased but the 50th issue savings certificate with a fixed rate over five years was left alone. If National Savings had brought out a higher paying 31st issue just as most interest rates were falling, it would be stuck with a high price product for five years.

By sitting on the fence it can ride out the buffeting forces of banks and building societies, particularly as they are just starting a new financial year.

However, they are ever watchful of the others: if National Savings were to be way behind target at the middle of the year, it could easily recoup its position by creating a breathtakingly attractive offer.

At that point banks and building societies would probably give up trying. Meanwhile a fever is gripping savings markets and anyone with a few pounds to spare should grab the opportunity quickly.

Peter Rodgers and Margaret Dibben

US performance overcomes cost of dispute

Hawker up by £14m despite miners' strike

By Andrew Cornelius

The coal strike cost Hawker Siddeley 27 million last year, but failed to prevent the group producing an unexpected £14 million rise in pre-tax profits to £151.5 million.

The collapse in Hawker's £75 million-plus yearly equipment sales to the National Coal Board was offset by a doubling of profits from the group's US businesses. Hawker shares were rapidly marked up by 26p to 457p on news of the increase, which compares with analysts' forecasts that profits would be unchanged on 1983.

Analysts later complained that Hawker would continue to be dogged by sharp changes in its share price unless it gave a better indication of performance during the year. "BTR would never allow forecasts to go so wrong," one leading engineering analyst said. "Hawker said that the downturn in UK profits from £70.5 million to £54.9 million was largely due to the impact of the coal strike and the timing of major contract completions."

Robert Bently... cautious

However, NCB orders for small items of equipment like road supports is already picking up. The group is confident that this will be translated into a resurgence of orders for heavier items of coal mining equipment later this year. Hawker's US profits doubled to £83.3 million, helped by the

mixing economy there and a 28 million exchange rate gain. The group also has high hopes for increased overseas sales from South America and the Far East after bolstering its export sales efforts in these territories.

Mr Robert Bently, the chief executive, said that the group's overall order book had increased by 10 per cent in real terms during the year, but he remained cautious about the current year's trading. "While there are areas in which business is still uncertain, with strong worldwide competition producing pressures on profitability, there are signs of improvement in the business environment in which the group is working," he said.

Hawker still holds a 25 per cent share stake in J.R. Fenner, the engineering group which it failed to take over last year with a £45 million bid. The board is recommending payment of a final dividend of 7.7p, making 11.5p for the year, against 11p last time.

Booker makes earnings forecast of £45m

Our Financial Staff
Booker McConnell has made an eleventh-hour attempt to retain its independence after spending nearly a year under siege from Mr Alec Monk's Dee Corporation. The agricultural publishing group yesterday pulled out a profit forecast predicting a figure of around £46 million for 1985, a 22 per cent increase over the £38 million published in 1984 figures.

Dee promptly responded with a new profit forecast of its own, restated to show the effect of property surpluses from the international chain bought late last year, and predicting earnings of not less than £64 million. The £38 million offer is due to close next Friday and so far Dee has accepted just 5.3 per cent of Booker shares, although it also owns a 16 per cent share stake. Booker's managing director, Mr Jonathan Taylor, said that

the profit forecast reflected the transformation of Booker over the past year and did not include exceptional property profits. "Twelve months ago we had seven divisions, today we have three profitable and very specific areas of interest."

A turnaround in health products is a key constituent of the new forecast. With the US now back in the black, Booker says the division will increase profits by 50 per cent. "We now have critical mass there. Before we had to get out, and get out, and get out," he said. "We have given up volume to our own marketing, which has helped," Mr Taylor said.

Booker is also promising a 23 per cent higher dividend of 11.5p. Its shares jumped 7p to 253p.

CDC moves on Systime

Systime, the Leeds-based mini-computer manufacturer, has been almost wholly taken over by CDC, a US Corp of the US. The move comes in the wake of the 30 per cent annual growth at Systime which placed a severe strain on the company's cash resources. CDC is a major resource for funding in the UK from the existing shareholders, including the Edinburgh-based Ivory and Sims, failed to produce the £15 or £20 million that the company needed to continue its expansion.

The move by CDC is also seen as a defensive measure aimed at giving Systime the maximum protection from takeover bids by the US Commerce Department of £400,000. The fine, due to be settled later this month, is based on alleged irregularities by Systime involving export of computers from the UK in the period 1980-1983.

Market makers' deadline

By Mary Brasier

FIRMS wanting to become market makers in the new look gilt-edged market have been given until May 3 to register their applications under a timetable set out by the Bank of England yesterday.

The application lists opened as the Bank published its white paper on the new structure of the gilt-edged market, which apart from some mostly technical changes broadly follows the lines of the Bank's draft proposals last November.

The timetable envisages a series of formal discussions between the Bank and applicants concerning their capitalisation and the size of market they intend to make after which a list of acceptable firms will be published. Potential market makers then have two weeks to confirm their applications and a final list will be compiled by mid-July.

The Bank stresses in its white paper that the new arrangements for the gilt market have not been rigidly fixed and will be reviewed as the market develops.

One key feature that is still to be resolved is the establishment of an assured payments system. This reflects concern which was raised during the discussion period since last November about the consequences of releasing shares to before the market opens. The Bank says it is "urgently exploring" ways of making the transfer of stock simultaneous with payment of the market's clearing price. It is one example of how a number of technical points have been incorporated into the Bank's broad strategy for the market.

The Bank has also responded to the Stock Exchange's proposals on membership by confirming that market makers must be members of the Exchange in order to ensure the regulation of the new market. In addition, the Bank will supervise market makers' capital resources to ensure that they have an adequate base for the size of market they are making.

Banker swipes at 'arbitrageurs'

By Peter Rodgers City Editor

The chairman of one of America's biggest banks yesterday hit out at the "arbitrageurs" who are currently making their money by arbitraging the share prices of American companies, driving up their share prices, before selling out.

Mr John McGillicuddy, chairman of Manufacturers Hanover, said in London that arbitrageurs should be made to give a firmer indication of where they would get the money to make a full bid. They should not be allowed to give just a "nominal indication"

of what they could or could not do financially.

Mr McGillicuddy was a member of a top-level panel which looked at the problems involved, but he said that it had been unable to recommend any action because that would undermine the basic workings of the market. However, he still believed that more details of the finance backing a threatened bid would help.

Arbitrageurs promised to deliver the money with the help of "the best intentioned investment banks in the world" but without a penny piece to back them up. Decisions were made in a room of investment

bankers and lawyers, all of whom "march out with astronomical fees". The market became a back room in which a very limited number of people make the decisions. To the extent that we banks participate in this is unfortunate.

He added: "As far as the US is concerned, it is a very serious problem. Under the US we see now are not made the purpose of building a company. They were financial transactions to make money, not to build a business, a great society."

Arbitrageurs such as Mr Ivan Boesky and Mr Carl Leach have been making for-

tunes and cutting swathes through US industry, originally concentrating on oil but now branching as far afield as the media and television networks.

Mr McGillicuddy also said that the US Federal Reserve would soon follow the Bank of England by introducing tougher guidelines for the mushrooming business of off-balance-sheet lending. The US may broaden the range beyond the Bank of England's new rules to include currency and interest rate swaps, a business which has grown so rapidly that Mr McGillicuddy confessed it "makes me a bit uneasy."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rolls wins Chinese order

ROLLS-ROYCE, the state-owned engineering group, revealed yesterday that it has won a second substantial order for electrical generating plant from China, this time from the China National Aero Technology Import and Export Corporation contracting to buy three sets with a total value of £15 million. This follows a £22.2 million order won by the group last year.

The new contract, for Rolls-Royce gas turbine electrical generating sets for an oil field development in the north-west, could lead to further substantial orders from the country, and Rolls-Royce confirmed yesterday that it expects more sales of the same Spey engine based generating sets to be agreed shortly.

NORRIS MASTERS, co-founder of Pineapple Dance Studios with his wife Debbie Moore, yesterday resigned as a director of the company, which owns dance studios in London and New York. Pineapple said that Mr Masters had not been involved in the day-to-day running of the company for about nine months. Roger Jennings, a former marketing director of Lee Cooper, concessionaires, was appointed last month as Pineapple's chief operating officer.

Entrad boosts stake in Tootal

By Mary Brasier

Entrad yesterday rammed home its £128 million attack on textiles group Tootal with a market raid which netted the Australian company, a 26 per cent share stake.

With just under a week to go before Tootal shareholders finally decide the outcome of the two-month takeover battle, Entrad launched a pre-emptive assault on its bid victim. It sent out another document attacking Tootal's profit forecast and dividend promises and then dispatched stockbrokers Cazenove into the stock market to buy \$6.5 million Tootal shares at just over 74p.

The raid took advantage of the first fall in the Tootal share price to below Entrad's 72.5p terms. Entrad said it

planned to go on buying in the market up to the maximum 25 per cent level. The shares leapt 6p to 75p as the raid got under way and Entrad came away at the close of business with a 26 per cent stake. Before the bid began the Australian group held 5.8 per cent of Tootal.

The share purchases gave Entrad chairman Mr Abe Goldberg a strong push towards being able to claim victory next week, but Tootal chairman Mr Alan Wagstaff remained unruffled yesterday. "I feel quite confident that we shall see him off," he said. "The major shareholders are on our side. I shall be there today week to wave him off on the plane," he said. Mr Wagstaff also hit back at the Entrad document, calling it "jumbled, misleading and possibly actionable."

Mr Goldberg has attacked Tootal's policy in accounting for depreciation and taxation liabilities and calls its profit increases "illusory". The document goes on to warn shareholders that they "cannot afford to rely on the dividend being maintained in the coming downturn of the textile cycle."

These are the final salvoes in a bid war which has seen Entrad raise its offer once by \$4 million, amid hopes that there might be a white knight bidder also waiting in the wings for Tootal. Yesterday's market raid, which caught everyone by surprise, has ruled out that possibility, and probably makes the outcome next week a close running.

Honda president digs in at Swindon

By our Business Staff

Honda president, Mr Tadashi Kume, yesterday performed the ground breaking ceremony for the Japanese car manufacturer's new £22 million plant at Swindon, but denied suggestions that the group plans a full production factory on the site.

Instead, Honda will confine its activities on the site to a pre-delivery inspection centre and a parts assembly plant, creating an initial 150 jobs in the process.

The Swindon project was described by Mr Kume as "the nucleus of Honda's future operations in this country."

test circuit for the new executive car being jointly produced in a collaborative venture between Honda and the BL subsidiary, Austin Rover Group.

The Honda "EX" version of the car will be launched jointly in the UK and Japan this autumn, with ARG's "BX" version following in the first half of 1986.

Midland Bank Interest Rates

Base Rate	Decreases by 0.5% to 12.75% per annum with effect from 12th April 1985.
Deposit Accounts	Interest on Deposit Accounts decreases by 0.5% to 7.0% net p.a. with effect from 12th April 1985.
	For those customers who receive interest gross, the rate decreases to 9.36% p.a.
Save and Borrow Accounts	Interest on credit balances decreases to the above Deposit Rate with effect from 13th May 1985 and interest charged on overdrawn balances remains at 23.0% p.a.
APR 25.0%	
Monthly Income Accounts	With effect from 12th April 1985 the interest decreases by 0.5% to 9.0% net per annum.
	For those customers who receive interest gross, the rate decreases to 12.04% p.a.



Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX

Clydesdale Bank PLC

BASE RATE

Clydesdale Bank PLC announces

that with effect from 15th April 1985 its Base Rate for lending is being reduced from 13 1/4% to 13% per annum

Unity Trust confirms talks on paper launch

By our City Editor

The trade union bank Unity Trust, which yesterday reported that it had won £16 million deposits in its first eight months, confirmed that it has been talking to Mr Clive Thornton about the launch of a new national Sunday newspaper. But it said that nothing had yet been agreed.

Managing director Mr Terry Thomas said: "Clive Thornton and others have approached us on their ideas for a newspaper. It doesn't go any further than that. We said in principle we would help them to syndicate a loan in the City if they produce a commercial project."

Unity Trust is for the moment too small a bank to finance a big industrial project on its own. It has lent £1 million to customers, and has £3 million in the pipeline.

Capital subscribed by the founder shareholders has reached £4.1 million but on usual Bank of England guidelines it would not be allowed to lend more than £600,000 to any single customer. The Bank of England sets a limit on loans to single customers of 15 per cent of capital, above which loans have to be notified to the Bank. The deposit build up to £16 million came from trade unions and Unity Trust made a modest trading profit of £10,000 in its eight months first trading period to December 31.

Unity Trust chairman Mr Lewis Lee said at the annual meeting yesterday that the United Kingdom should join the European Monetary System.

Multimedia spurns Lorimar

From Alex Brummer in Washington

The producers of corporate soap operas Dynasty and Dallas, Lorimar, of Culver City, California, have been rebuffed in their one billion dollar takeover bid for the Multimedia group, which owns newspapers, broadcasting and cable television interests.

Multimedia, which has already accepted a lower offer of \$870 million from the company's own management, says that the management "is founding family... which control up to 40 per cent of the

shares... have indicated no intention of willingness to sell." But Lorimar, ever confident, says the deal "looks awfully good to us."

Lorimar's entry into the first division of American media takeovers has largely been built on the rich syndication rights of Dallas — still the top rated show on the American networks. In the most recent six-month period its earnings tripled, climbing to \$22.4 million on sales of some \$196.7 million.

In a separate bid saga, Sir James Goldsmith has begun

spurred in his \$807.5 million offer for Crown Zellerbach. But shares in the company continued to rise, suggesting that the markets believe that Sir James — who is bidding through a Cayman Island subsidiary — may still increase his offer. Shares in CBS, America's favourite media takeover candidate, recovered yesterday after falling on Thursday when the company, the US's top television network, took legal action against arbitrage expert Mr Ivan Boesky who recently acquired 3.7 per cent of the CBS stock.

Kwik-Save suffers

The other problem to hit Kwik-Save was the good sum-

The shares are being sold at a fair 13.5 times forecast earnings of 7.4p a share and 3 per cent yield. Since the directors

The dividend stays at 10p net a share, including the 6p final payment and earnings were also steady at 20p after lower deferred tax provisions. Better returns in the US and developments in food following the Pearce Duff acquisition should slow any further decline, but the chairman, Mr D.C.F. Pearson, points out that present conditions are too slack to permit any recovery forecast either.

The dividend is 1p a share as forecast, while 2.5p would have been paid for a full year. Earnings were 9p a share. The directors look forward to further growth and continuing innovation and report that new catering contracts are ahead of budget so far this year. At 117p, up 3p, the share price is back near its peak and reasonably above the 100p placing figure.

In short...

SCOTTISH Television raised its profit by almost £1.1 million to £3.7 million on turnover of £6.8 million higher at £56.8 million last year. Channel 4 subscription cost £8 million and the levy £3.5 million. Latest advertising revenue is running only marginally ahead of last year.

CH INDUSTRIALS holds 13.4 per cent of Banro and Stewart Funds will accept on behalf of another 13 per cent in the absence of a higher offer for Banro.

HAMBROS has placed 1.8 million shares of **Norscot Hotels**, 31.5 per cent of the capital, at 113p a share. **Burnthills**, the holding company retains control.

AQUASCUTUM doubled its profit to £1.2 million on sales £8 million higher at £33.6 million in the year to January 31. The dividend goes up to 2.25p (2.05p) with a 1.5p final.

THE MARKETS

The decision by Barclay and Midland to cut their base rates by half-a-point, leaving the other clearers at a quarter, breathed some life into government securities yesterday, but equities, apart from special situations, were largely neglected as the long three-week Easter holiday account drew to a tired close.

Most dealers were waiting for the new account before making any investment decisions, but the underlying trend was fairly firm. Gilts had the best day for some time but climbing around a full-point in the high-coupon longes.

hausted the Exchequer 104 per cent 1997 and sold some of the Treasury 9 per cent 1997 "tablets". Stores were to the fore on hopes that the building societies may relent and ease mortgage rates before very long. Rises recorded here were between 5p and 12p, but there was little interest in other consumer stocks, buildings or properties.

Travel firms were in demand behind the firm pour and reports that package holiday sales were picking up. Leading shares were little changed at the official close but were expected to push ahead "after hours." Hawk stood out with a 26p rise

437p following a 10 per cent
profits increase, well in excess
of market predictions. Glaxo
recouped an early modest loss
to finish 2p up at 1080p ahead
of Monday's half-timer. Analysts
are looking for profits of
£160-185 million against £150
million for the same period
last year.

There was some excitement
Too! as Entrad launched
"dawn raid" on the share
picking up around 20 per cent

to bring their stake to 25.7 per cent. Entrad are to remain in the market until they have acquired 29.9 per cent. Total shares closed 6p higher at 75p.

William Baird rebounded 22p to 370p after a favourable press reception to Thursday's results. Another firm counter was **Avon Rubber**, up 23p to 301p, following a successful visit to the company by a firm of brokers.

On the minus side discount houses fared badly following an adverse article suggesting that they had been wrongfooted by the recent surge in interest rates. There was also speculation about a bid for Clive Discount, whose price held firmer.

Main changes were: Hawker 437p up 25p; Avon Rubber 301p up 23p; Tootal 74p up 8p; Microlease 400p dn 43p; Laidlaw 38p dn 8; Horizon Travel 133p up 15p; Moss Bros. 383p up 28p.

Number of bargain - 23,198;
value £383.405 million.

● Paris: French shares rose in active trading although a late round of profit taking brought the market off its best intraday levels. At the end of the day, the general market

● Frankfurt: Share prices closed mixed as anxiety about the course of the US dollar and the impending weekend thinned the ranks of participants.

COMMODITIES

was distorted by good gains posted by some interest rate-sensitive issues, dealers said.

● Hong Kong Share prices rose in active, lively trading. One broker described the day's trading as "lively." The market index rose by as much as 14 points in the morning, before slipping in the afternoon.

1987 Index: 1,382.11

● Tokyo: Despite a plus for the index, most stocks in the Tokyo market slipped into the minus column. Domestic investors, rather than following in the footsteps of foreigners, intended to take a wait-and-see attitude and didn't sell off shares so actively. Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 12,388.01 (10,572.59)

● **Money markets:** Interbank periods were reined in as the Bank of England curbs on the discount market when the authorities decided that the pace of descent was too hot after base rate leap (ragging on).

Barclays and Midland so rate lifted off the bottom before the close, generally by 1/16 or 1/8. They remained, nevertheless, around 1/2 lower than hitherto, anticipating that the general move to a lower structure of interest rates has been broken only temporarily.

FT Ordinary Share Index up 10.4 at 967.9. FT-SE 100 Index up 6.5 at 1275.8. Pound: \$1.2530. DMI 3.83; Fr 11.71. Gold: \$329. Account: March 25 to April 12. FT All Share Index up 2.41 at 614.73. Sterling Index 78.8.

ES

Breakmate excels

Glut conditions in several basic commodities have prevented Gill and Dufus, the cocoa trader and international broker from meeting its earlier profit estimate. Limiting risk exposure inevitably means that margins are being trimmed so the outlook remains dull, if changeable.

Taxable profit slipped to £17.1 million for the year from £20.48 million previously and was thus nearly £1 million below the late October indications from the board. Turnover was

Breakmate, the drinks dispensing and catering consultancy group whose shares were placed on the Unlisted Securities Market last October has comfortably beaten its profit forecast and the growth rate shows no sign of flagging.

On turnover of £9.1 million up from £8.9 million previously, pre-tax profit emerged at £481,000, against £381,000 previously and the

In short...

SCOTTISH Television raised its profit by almost £1.1 million to £3.7 million on turnover of £6.8 million higher at £56.8 million last year. Channel 4 subscription cost £8 million and the levy £3.5 million. Latest advertising revenue is running only marginally ahead of last year.

CH INDUSTRIALS holds 13.4 per cent of Banro and Stewart Funds will accept on behalf of another 13 per cent in the absence of a higher offer for Banro.

HAMBROS has placed 1.8 million shares of **Norscot Hotels**, 31.5 per cent of the capital, at 113p a share. **Burnthills**, the holding company retains control.

AQUASCUTUM doubled its profit to £1.2 million on sales £8 million higher at £33.6 million in the year to January 31. The dividend goes up to 2.25p (2.05p) with a 1.5p final.

COMMODITIES

Copper, Crk	\$1,200	per tonne	three	Br
months	\$1,200	per tonne		pr
Tin: Cash	\$9,810	per tonne	three months	\$745
	\$9,780	per tonne		Co
Lead: Crk	\$310.50	per tonne	three	\$2
months	\$309.50	per tonne		Iron
Zinc: Crk	\$724	per tonne	three months	\$1
	\$745.00	per tonne		Q
Silver, Spot	\$31.50	per tray oz.	three	Prs
months	\$49.50			tonne

UNIT TRUSTS

[illegible]

THE STOCK EXCHANGE

[illegible]

هكذا من الاصل

THE TERM "umbrella fund" has been around for about a year, and refers to unit trusts comprising a number of sub-funds. There are two main objectives in setting up such funds: one is to allow easy and cheap switching from one investment area to another. The other is to enable investors to make switches like this without becoming liable to capital gains tax.

This was the expected, and widely advertised, attraction of the Arbuthnot Portfolio Trust, an authorised unit trust launched last spring. The trust brought together four portfolios — North America, Europe, the UK and Japan — and one switch a year is permitted between them without charge. According to the trust's prospectus, at the time of launch, switches within the trust's different portfolios would not incur CGT.

Unfortunately, the Revenue didn't see it that way. There followed a legal battle between them and Arbuthnot, and it was the tax man who recently emerged triumphant. Just as if they were separate unit trusts, there will still be a CGT liability on switches between the trust's different portfolios.

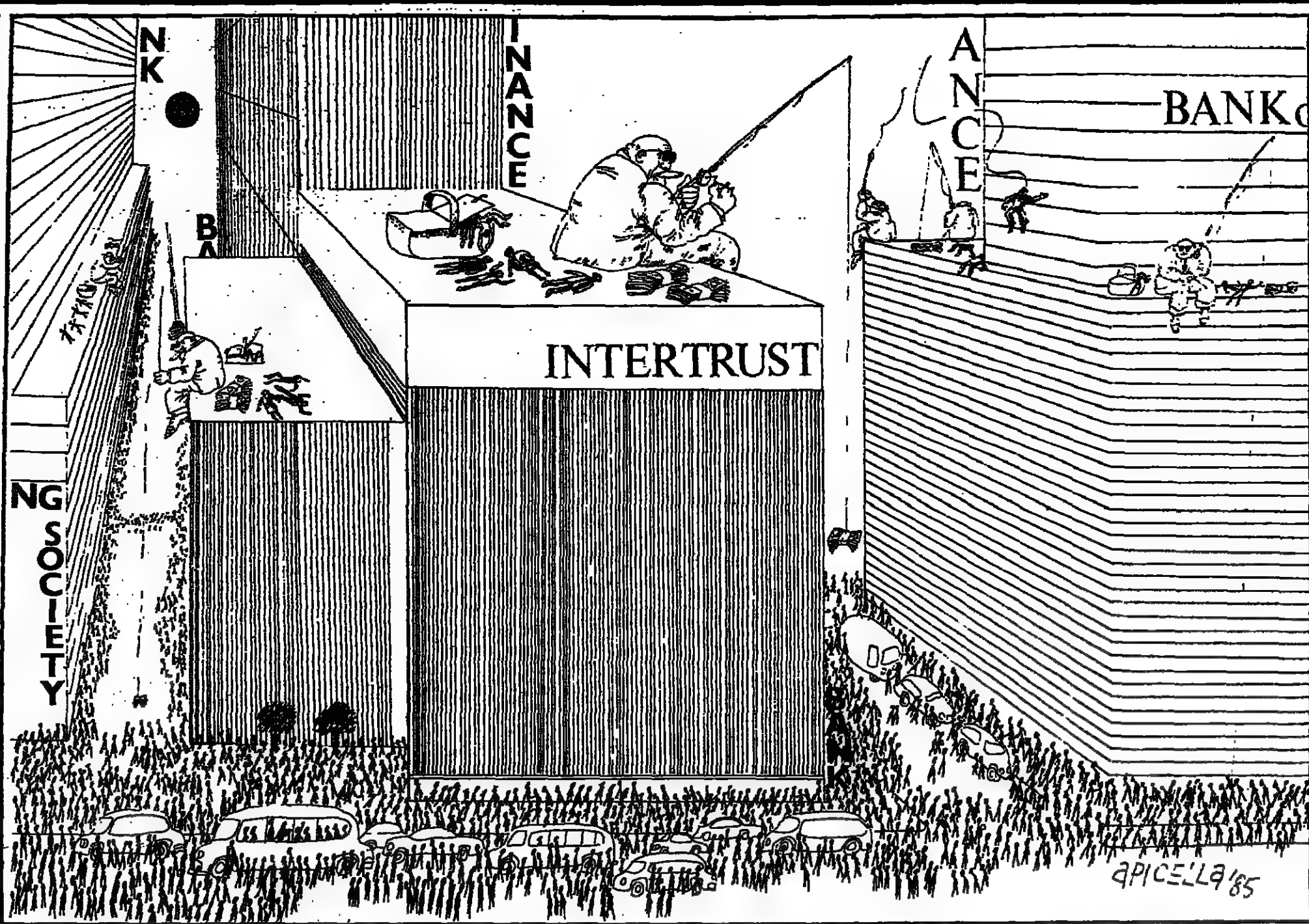
This fact does not leave the Arbuthnot trust altogether without advantage. The UK, North American and Japan portfolios have performed well over their life to date, and that is, after all, the most fundamental thing to look for in an investment.

The Arbuthnot judgment has made them feel a lot less secure

The front end fee, at 3.5 per cent, is a lot lower than the typical 5 per cent on ordinary unit trusts, but the annual management fee is 2.5 per cent, compared to the more normal 0.75-1 per cent. The minimum investment in the trust is £2,500, which is very high for a unit trust, but logical, given that you are buying into several different portfolios at once.

Many unit trust groups were awaiting the outcome of the Arbuthnot case with interest. If the tax advantage had remained, umbrella funds, so to speak, would have mushroomed. As it is, the natural home of the umbrella fund is now offshore where, it would appear, switches can be made without a CGT liability.

Several reputable UK groups — notably Gartmore, Guinness, Mahon and Schroder — have Channel Islands subsidiaries which offer this kind of fund. Offshore funds are usually constituted in a rather different way from UK unit trusts, and it is this that makes all the difference where tax is concerned. Whereas in a unit



The umbrella as a tax shelter

Provided the Revenue doesn't turn nasty, offshore umbrella funds offer a distinct advantage when it comes to capital gains tax. That is provided you have enough money to buy into them in the first place. Christine Stopp unfurls the details

trust you hold units, an offshore fund is legally a company in which you hold shares. The business of the company is to invest in a stated type of market. The managers of the investments will often be advised by the parent company in London, so management of the offshore fund may be very similar to that of the same group's unit trust investing in the same market.

An offshore umbrella fund is a company whose brief is to invest in a number of different markets. When you switch between its different portfolios, you are exchanging one class of shares for another within the same company.

Because of this technicality, the offshore groups believe that their UK investors will not have a CGT liability when they switch from, say, Japan to the US. The Arbuthnot judgment, however, has made them feel a lot less secure on this point, and it may become

time before the position is clear. There is no doubt, of course, that the UK investor will have to pay capital gains tax when he redeems his shares altogether. Even this is only a problem if you have a very large amount of money invested, or need to sell all your shares in one go. Because there is an annual CGT exemption of £2,500 for the new tax year, and effective gains are further reduced by the indexation provisions,

it is possible to husband gains in a tax-free manner by progressively redeeming, year by year, only amounts which fall inside the exempt limit. Though this investment does not free you of capital gains tax altogether, it enables you to manage the liability very effectively, and means there is no CGT disincentive attached to an investment decision to switch from one market to another. If you are likely within the next few years to cease to be liable to

UK tax — for instance, if you are intending to retire abroad — such funds allow you to hold off capital gains tax liability until you find yourself outside the UK tax net. A further advantage of offshore umbrella funds is the wide range of investment areas they cover. Unlike unit trusts, which are at present limited to investing in stocks and shares, offshore funds can also invest in currencies. The Guinness Mahon Global Strategy Fund has 18 classes

Selection Fund carries a minimum of \$2,000 in share classes, and Guinness Mahon undoubtedly looks most accessible to the smaller investor with a £1,000 minimum.

The Guinness Mahon fund also has a low initial charge — 2.5 per cent — and this is waived altogether if the initial investment exceeds £30,000. Annual charges are also reasonable at 0.5 per cent for the money funds and the managed currency fund, and 0.75 per cent for the fixed interest and equity funds. There is a 2.5 per cent charge on switching. The Schroder fund has a five per cent initial charge, a one per cent annual management charge (similar, in both cases, to UK unit trusts) and a 2.5 per cent charge on switching. At the five per cent initial charge is halved on the new class of shares.

With these portfolios, it is mainly up to the investor to choose which fund he puts his money in, though the Guinness Mahon umbrella includes the Global Equity Fund — in effect, a managed equity fund — as well as a managed currency fund. If you want still more active management than this, a new offshore fund industry — and investment policy permits them to invest up to 10 per cent of portfolios in their own funds.

With this fund you buy shares in the normal way, but the underlying investments include a range of funds from

Unlike unit trusts, offshore funds can also invest in currencies

different management groups. The investment managers are Robert Fleming — a well known name in the offshore fund industry — and investment policy permits them to invest up to 10 per cent of portfolios in their own funds.

The fund has no initial charge, and switches between the classes of share with no charge on the new share bought. The disadvantage is that there is double charging on the annual management fee, because both the fund and the individual managers take their whack, and even that the shares are based on a "fund of funds" performance is likely to be unconvincing. Dramatic movements in price, both upwards and downwards, will be smoothed out by the wide spread of investments.

For further details on the funds mentioned, telephone numbers are as follows: Arbuthnot: 01-623 8876; Gartmore: 01-623 1312; Guinness Mahon: 01-623 9333; Schroder: 01-636 8731; PFC: 01-930 8451.

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How to destroy domestic bliss for £8 a week

The Government's insistence that working children help with the rent has had grave consequences, says Sue Ward

TEENAGERS and their parents would probably all agree that the process of becoming a young adult is not the most peaceful experience — especially if the young person in question is living at home. In France, a book by a woman who describes how selfish and unhelpful her sons are has become a best seller. In Britain, the Government considers itself the "party of the family" and claims to be pursuing policies that defend traditional family life and values. But is it doing what it claims?

A recent publication by the Child Poverty Action Group and Youthaid the pressure group on youth unemployment, suggests that, at least for the poorer part of the population, it is failing badly. In Families Rent Apart by Jo Roll and Shirley Cusack, they have looked at the effect of the housing benefit rules, introduced in 1983, which require a "non-dependant" with a job to pay at least £8.20 a week towards the tenant's housing costs. This is a flat rate regardless of how much the non-dependant — most often a teenage son or daughter in work — is earning. The amount of benefit paid is reduced on the assumption that this demand is being met. No evidence is required of how much the teenager is actually paying and almost certainly the parent would have no legal way of forcing him or her to do so.

The housing benefit deductions came into force in 1983, and since then the amount to be taken off has risen by almost 100 per cent. This compares with a 10 per cent increase in prices, and a 35 per cent increase in average wages over the same period. This might seem anomalous enough in itself but, say the authors, the effect of other government policies has been to keep the wages of young people down still further.

A 16-17-year-old now earns about a third of the wage of a person over 21, and the poorest 10 per cent of the age group earn less than £38. When its own Social Security Advisory Committee, protested about the increased

charge, the Government said that it could take no responsibility for any problem there might be because a youngster refused to hand over cash to his or her parents. What does this mean to those affected? The poverty lobby has asked the Government to do some research on it, but they refused. Instead, Child Poverty Action Group wrote to the Daily Star and asked readers to get in touch if the non-dependant rules were causing problems. They were obviously not a representative sample, but the picture they paint ought to be a matter of serious concern.



"Never in the field of human conflict is so much owed by so many..."

The mother of a young apprentice carpenter, for instance, wrote to say that if her son paid £8.20 for rent, on top of what he gave her for food and clothing, and what he must spend on his fares and tools he would be left with precisely £1.20 a week to call his own.

Another wrote a second time, after replying to CPAG's initial appeal for information, to say that "since then, he has left home because we were rowing all the time over money... you might say this new rent scheme has broken my home up, plus the love and respect of a son which I've lost."

CPAG feel that these "non-dependant" rules are having the same effect — and point out that there are 1,240,000 non-dependants living in households receiving mortgage interest tax relief, yet no deduction is made for them from the tax relief, and it is most unlikely that the building societies, who administer most of the relief, would even contemplate such a suggestion.

Families Rent Apart: Shirley Cusack and Jo Roll. A joint CPAG/Youthaid publication, £2.95.

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THE Government's bill enabling building societies and banks to undertake conveyancing for their customers has hit choppy water. Lord Hailsham and the Law Society are both expressing concern about possible conflicts of interest if a solicitor were able to work for both the building society and the house purchaser.

Meanwhile, do it yourself conveyancing, which solicitors unequivocally dislike, continues to attract both support and attack. Is it a straightforward job that anyone who can add two plus two is capable of handling? Or is it a minefield of potential catastrophes?

Experiences differ. Here, two writers take a look at DIY conveyancing and come to very different conclusions.

THE house-sellers with the biggest smiles are often those who have cut out the cost of solicitors and done their own conveyancing.

'If you think solicitors move like snails, see how the parties deal with individuals'

"ANYONE who does it themselves these days must be mad," says Tony Holland, a solicitor in Plymouth and chairman of the Law Society's non-contentious business committee. According to him, a solicitor in his area is advertising his willingness to do conveyancing for a flat-rate of £135, regardless of the price of the property involved.

Two or three years ago, the story was rather different, with solicitors' prices so high that there really could be serious financial saving for those with the time, patience and nerve to handle the technicalities of buying and selling themselves.

We will return to price later, but cost is not the only factor involved in the decision of whether or not to go it

veyancing themselves. A dozen I spoke to said the sense of achievement was overwhelming, and the savings substantial — often hundreds of pounds.

All claimed that there were no hold-ups when they did their own legal work on house sales last year — despite the misgivings of solicitors. In some cases the time between accepting the buyer's offer and completion was only five weeks.

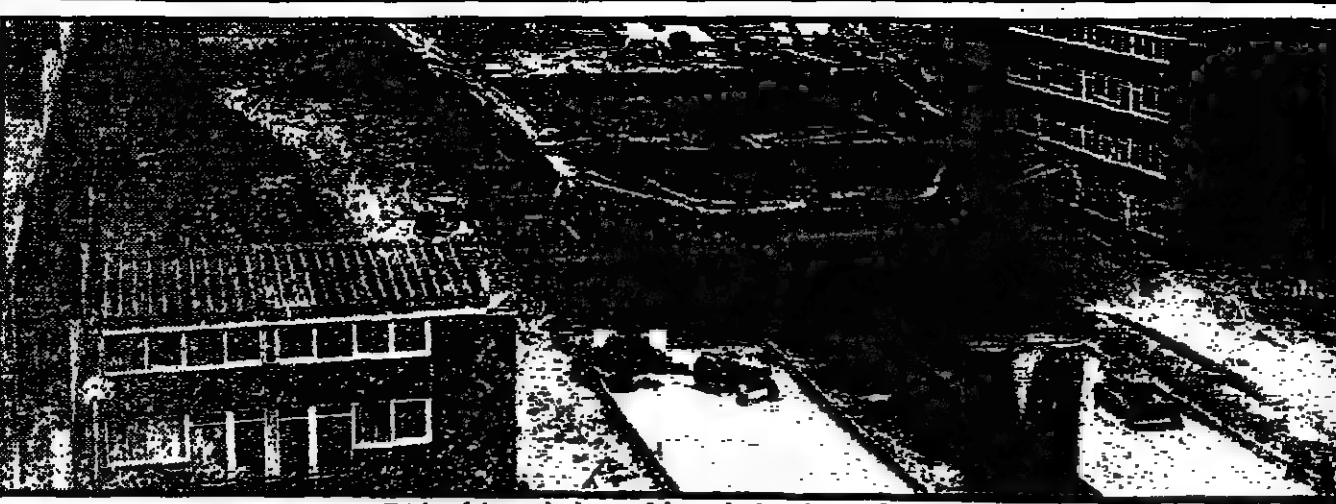
One or two were even complimented on their efficiency by the solicitors acting for the buyers of their homes. Others felt difficulties were being put in their way by the professionals.

It is house selling, rather than house buying, that is best-suited to self-conveyancing because there is no risk involved. In law, it is the buyer who must beware. Sellers have no such problems, and can always hold on to the keys of the house until they receive the cash for their property.

The dozen or so self-conveyancers that I spoke to had all used a kit, called Title Transfers, launched last year by Michael Galton, who studied law and English for his MA at Cambridge. Mr Galton also provides a back-up telephone service for those buying the £35 kit, and offers a refund for those who return kits in good condition within 14 days. In almost a year only one kit has been returned because the home seller thought do-it-yourself conveyancing was too difficult.

But with non-registered land or a lease, the best advice is to forget it. "We've just off-loaded a defective lease on to someone who was doing his own conveyancing who did not notice the problem, which is really rather serious, especially when it comes to re-sell," said one solicitor recently.

A solicitor would have spotted the defect and if he or she hadn't there would have been the automatic right to sue for negligence because all solicitors have to carry insur-



Tricks of the trade: be careful you don't end up with a motorway running through the back garden

Do-it-yourself deeds

Although most solicitors deal with the selling of one house and the buying of another, Mr Galton points out that they are two different jobs and that a fee is charged for each.

Mr Galton decided to form Title Transfers after selling his mother's house. The transaction, using a solicitor, took four months to complete and the bill for the straightforward sale was for £503.

Many of the customers for the kit use it to sell the property of deceased or

elderly relatives, or to deal with a sale in one part of the country while they hire a solicitor for the purchase in the area they are moving to. By doing this Karen Bell, who works as a bank clerk for Midland Bank in Worthing, saved herself around £400 on the sale of her Workshop home. She had received quotes from solicitors of £750 to £900 for the sale of one house and purchase of another. By using a solicitor only for the purchase of her new home she kept the costs down to £350.

At the outset Karen was a little anxious. She said: "The kit seemed so simple I was worried something was missing. So I showed it to someone who knows about these things, and he said that's all there was to it. So I went ahead."

At first the buyer's solicitor was reluctant to deal with her. "The solicitor wasn't very co-operative. It took a lot of persuasion to get him to deal with me," she said. "Then everything went smoothly."

Barbara Dixon, a Sheffield teacher, was also apprehensive when she received her kit, but was persuaded by her boyfriend to go ahead with her own conveyancing. She said: "The buyer's solicitor was a bit fussy to start with, but I was efficient and had everything at my fingertips, so we got on very well in the end. It all went smoothly, and quickly and was interesting to do."

It took six weeks from agreeing to the sale until completion and did not

involve much work at all, said Barbara.

Her boyfriend, Peter Kemp, plans to sell his home soon and will use the kit. He has already undertaken some time-saving devices, recommending to speed things along when he finally has a buyer.

He has sent to the local council the printed form of routine inquiries about highways, sewers, and so on relating to his own house, which can then be handed to the buyer, saving anything up to a five week wait for the answers. He has already filled in the inquiries before contact — another standard form — which the buyer's solicitor will require.

Bill Hattersley, a lecturer in Manchester, found that the inquiries before contract form was the most difficult one he encountered while selling his home and this form has to be filled in by sellers, whether they have a solicitor or not.

"It was quite straightforward. The contract, which is supplied, is easy to fill in. My main problem was when it came to exchanging money at the end. I could give an undertaking to pay off the mortgage on the property I was selling, but the buyer's solicitor would not take my word for it. It would have been a solicitor, he would have been satisfied," he said. The difficulty was resolved without delay, and Mr Hattersley saved £200.

Jan Coldwell of Worsbrough

near Barnsley sold her £29,000 cottage without using either a solicitor or an estate agent. It cost her a total of £80, but most of all she liked the feeling of being in control of her buyer's solicitor needed information quickly and he sent it immediately and he said it was on its way.

The work took a matter of minutes a week and was easily fitted in with a full time job. She wrote some six letters and only had to use the telephone service for advice from Mr Galton twice.

The buyer of Ms Coldwell's cottage says she had no problems at all and no delays were caused by the self-conveyancing. In addition there was one big advantage. "She was informal and relaxed and created a friendship out of the situation."

"If my solicitor had known that I told her as much about my negotiations as I did he'd have had a fit. He's dead against people doing their own conveyancing. He's a real chavvinist. He wouldn't even address her as Ms, as she wanted to be known as Mrs. He insisted on knowing whether she was Miss or Mrs."

Michael Galton says: "You are the one person in the world with the greatest interest in a successful sale of your house. You are the best person to handle it."

Lindsay Cook

Penny Chorlton

There are various guides published for people who want to have a go at doing their own conveyancing. The "Consumers' Association" of Castlemead, Gascoyne Way, Hertford SG14 1JH, offers The Legal Side of Buying a House.

Joseph Bradshaw at Castle Books, 1 Borkman, Leamington Spa CV32 5JA has written several books on the subject, notably Bradshaw's Guide to DIY House Buying, Selling and Conveyancing.

Michael Joseph's The Conveyancing Form has recently been republished by Michael Joseph, 27 Occupation Lane, London SE18.

organise things with each other so that completion takes place on the same day, if possible around the same time. This is crucial if you are buying and selling in a chain.

These are some of the problems to which the Law Society would add dire warnings like "you need to know something about probate" (if your sale or purchase involves property belonging to someone who has died), and divorce proceedings if you are dealing with a "Class F" property, in which one half of a divorcing couple has registered a charge on the property in question.

Plus, of course, there are local searches, but here is one area where the do-it-yourselfer may well do a more thorough job than a solicitor. After all the solicitor is only

concerned with the land the property is built on, and whether or not there is a motorway planned to run past the end of the road.

The buyer who will be living in the property will be much more concerned to investigate potential problems like noisy traffic, unsociable neighbours, parking or access difficulties.

If you do run into a serious problem — like an extension that has been put up without planning permission — do not be afraid to admit defeat and call in a solicitor. This is what often happens to people who were going to do their own conveyancing, having told all their friends it would be "a piece of cake". Even if they do have to abandon the attempt, at least they will know the time and aggravation

Travel light of heart

Well, how much cover should you have for Switzerland? David Worsfold concludes his look at holiday insurance

OVER the past few weeks we have been looking at various aspects of holiday insurance. Here now is a checklist of what to look for in a travel insurance policy. And remember, the best advice is not to give in to inertia and sign for the policy offered at the back of the tour operator's brochure. Shop around. Make sure you are getting the best value for your money and that the terms of the policy suit your circumstances.

All travel insurance policies should offer cover in six basic areas as set out below. This

gives an idea of the level of cover that a reasonable policy should offer. Whether it is part of the tour operator's own package or bought separately from an insurance company or travel agent.

Baggage and personal effects: This should cover loss or damage of all luggage and articles worn or carried up to a total value of £500 — £1,000. There will usually be a single-item limit of £150-£250 and a limit for money of £200-£250. The policy should include cover for loss of valuables.

Cancellation: This should cover for holiday costs that are not recoverable if you have to cancel your holiday for some unavoidable reason. The cover should be for the full value of your holiday. **Delay:** Compensation for delay due to bad weather should be fairly generous in the range of £250-£500, although this will be payable in "instalments" as the delay gets longer. A token £50 compensation is usually available for delay due to industrial action or mechanical failure.

Personal liability: Covers your legal liability for damage you

cause to other people or their property. £100,000 is a common limit but it is probably better to look for a minimum of £200,000 nowadays.

Personal accident: Pays out on death or some form of permanent disablement. Minimum benefit worth having is about £5,000.

Medical expenses: This section must include a 24-hour emergency service. Cover varies depending on your destination. For ECU countries it should be double that at £50,000, except for Switzerland where £100,000 of cover would be more sensible. Outside Europe, and in particular in the United States, you should be looking for a minimum £250,000.

The likely cost of this cover varies considerably from company to company but as a rough guide it should cost between £740 and £950 for a family of four — two adults and two children under sixteen — for a two week holiday in Europe.

19th Jan 85

Dear Jonathan,

I have taken your advice for many years but now I read in the press that Investment Trusts have frequently outperformed the All-share index and unit trusts! To me this sounds most impressive why therefore have you not recommended Investment Trusts? I await your reply

David

A question your Investment Adviser may be reluctant to answer.

Any Investment Adviser worth his salt knows that the performance of Investment Trusts has, over the last five years, been exceptionally good.

So good in fact, that they have on average outstripped Unit Trusts and the F.T. All-Share Index. So why are some Investment Advisers reluctant to recommend Investment Trusts?

Quite simply, there are other forms of investment which can earn more for the Investment Adviser.

Stockbrokers however can easily

buy Investment Trust shares for you and The Association of Investment Trust Companies has a list of those who are keen to advise you.

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M&G INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

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Till debt us do part

Tax advantages there may be, but unmarried 'wives' have little protection in English law, warns Clare Dyer

WHERE do you stand in the eyes of the law if you live with someone outside marriage? Surveys show that most cohabitants have only the vaguest notion of their legal status and the rights and responsibilities which go with it.

One reader, N.P. of Walsall, for instance, wants to know the difference between a common law wife and the female half of a man and woman living together. "I suspect N.P. has got hold of one of the commonest legal misconceptions: that there is some magic period of living together — three years or seven years, for example — which transforms a cohabitee into a wife or the next best thing."

Contrary to popular belief, common law marriage does not exist in England. Only a marriage ceremony can turn a woman into a wife, as Valerie Burns discovered when she went to court after her break-up with Patrick Burns. Had she been married to him, she would have been entitled to divorce to a share of the family home, even though it was bought in his name only. And she would have been able to claim maintenance for herself.

But without that vital piece of paper, she was left with nothing to show for nearly 20 years of cooking, cleaning, and bringing up two sons. Her only recourse was to sue for a lump sum, but this would have won her a share but, unlike a wife, a cohabitee who simply stays home looking after the house and children cannot claim a share in the property which can be cashed in when a split comes. As one of the appeal court judges who reluctantly turned down her claim commented: "When one compares the ultimate

result with what it would have been had she married and taken the appropriate steps under the 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act, I think that she could justifiably say that fate has not been kind to her."

In New Zealand, Australia and Canada, laws have been passed which give long-term cohabitants, or those with children, the right to claim support from their ex-partners after the relationship ends. Little by little, as more couples have opted out of matrimony, English law too has extended the rights of unmarried 'wives'.

For instance, on a council tenant's death, the tenancy can be passed on to a live-in partner — if the couple were living together for at least 12 months before the death. And a cohabitee can now sue for compensation if her partner is killed in an accident through someone else's fault. But the law has stopped short of imposing any obligation on one partner to support the other either while they live together or afterwards, though unmarried fathers can be ordered by the court to contribute towards their children's keep.

For women who adopt the traditional dependent role, marriage is a better bet. But, for the two career family, staying single can pay dividends. Married or not, a woman with a financial stake in a jointly owned home need not worry about ending up in Valerie Burns's position. And a tax system which unintentionally encourages better off couples to forgo marriage vows can put extra pounds in the family kitty.

The tax man treats a husband and wife as a unit, but living together couples as two separate individuals. So, while a married couple can claim mortgage interest tax relief on a loan of up to £30,000, for their next-door neighbours unwedded bliss can mean full tax relief on a joint mortgage of up to £50,000.

Unmarried couples lose out on the married man's tax allowance, but this won't be any loss to the couple earning enough between them to make it advantageous. The claimant commented: "When one compares the ultimate

income (in 1985-86, at least £25,360, with the lower paid partner bringing in £5,956 or more).

Staying single means that when the first child comes along, one parent can claim the additional personal allowance (APA) for single parents, which brings the single person's allowance up to the level of the married man's allowance. With two or more children, both parents can claim the APA, giving the couple the equivalent of two married men's allowances, or total allowances of £6,910.

For elderly couples, the fiscal attractions of living together are just as obvious. Two single age allowances total more than the married age allowance. The income level at which older taxpayers start having their age allowance cut back is £8,500 for a married couple; for couples to skip the ceremony it's £8,500 each.

For a widow living off the income from investments, remarriage would mean giving up the personal allowance which, as a single woman, she can set off against her investment income. If they need to realise some of their investments, singles can escape capital gains tax on gains of up to £5,900 in 1985-86. A married couple has to share the £5,900 exemption.

On the other hand, there can be arguments in favour of a last-ditch trip to the altar. One possible reason is to make sure of a widow's pension from the man's occupational pension scheme. Another is to avoid paying capital transfer tax when one person dies and leaves property to the other. Transfers between husbands and wives are completely free of CTT.

When it comes to inheritance, wives score over cohabitants. A wife automatically inherits a large chunk of her husband's estate (possibly all of it, depending on the size of the estate and the other surviving relatives) if he dies without making a will — and vice-versa. Live-in partners can't be sure of inheriting anything unless they are named in a will, which is a costly and time-consuming exercise.

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MY ADVICE is stick with your accountant. You won't find many financial advisers who are prepared to point out their own interest in your business. You should ask him (a) if he offers commissions received against any fees he may charge; and (b) if he is advising 'insurance' based investments or unit trusts, what about the companies which pay low or no commission? These companies include Equitable Life, London Life, and Framlington Unit Management. They tend to have very low charges to the investor, and are rarely recommended by advisers who rely on commission.

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YOUR SAVINGS

	% Interest	% gross rate taxpayer	Tax	£ Min
BANKS				
Deposits	7.5	10.71	paid	1
Current savings	7.5-9.5	10.71-13.57	paid	2,500
Fixed term	9.5-11.5	13.57-16.43	paid	2,500
High interest	9.5-11.5	13.57-16.43	paid	100-4
High interest	9.5-11.5	13.57-16.43	paid	2,000
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Share account	8.5	11.79	paid	100
Fixed term	9.5	12.67	paid	100
High interest	9.5	12.67	paid	100
High interest	9.5	12.67	paid	100
TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK				
Share account	8.5	11.79	paid	100
Fixed term	9.5	12.67	paid	100
High interest	9.5	12.67	paid	100
High interest	9.5	12.67	paid	100
NATIONAL SAVINGS				
Ordinary savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Current savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Fixed term	8	11.11	paid	500
High interest	8	11.11	paid	500
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES (Bank Issue)				
Ordinary savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Current savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Fixed term	8	11.11	paid	500
High interest	8	11.11	paid	500
INDEX-LINKED CERTIFICATES				
Ordinary savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Current savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Fixed term	8	11.11	paid	500
High interest	8	11.11	paid	500
YEARLY PLAN				
Ordinary savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Current savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Fixed term	8	11.11	paid	500
High interest	8	11.11	paid	500
LOCAL AUTHORITIES				
Ordinary savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Current savings	8	11.11	paid	500
Fixed term	8	11.11	paid	500
High interest	8	11.11	paid	500

Weekend Money is edited by Margaret Dibben

What do you put on rhubarb — apart from custard?

COLD MAD WINDS in March kept me indoors, tending in comfort my window sill seedlings and cropping my sprouting seeds (from Thompson & Morgan) to help fill my fresh vegetable gap. I like fennel in my soup, salad alfalfa in sandwiches, and snowbeans for a nutty-flavoured nook. Given jam jars with muslin tops secured by rubber bands, the cultivation is simple enough if your memory is good just daily lukewarm water rinses. One reader finds the bottom drawer of an old fashioned wardrobe the best place for seed sprout propagation.

Nelson, my plot associate, who seems to face errant weather conditions with impunity, has meanwhile made ready the allotment for the season's assault, with onion sets, potatoes, and sugar peas given priority. The early frost finished our winter greens, except for the curly kale which cooks nicely. I find, in a collapsible steamer which a friend recommended, Rhubarb is the crop now burgeoning on the allotments, especially if covered with buckets, boxes, and straw for outdoor forcing.

There was a time when I looked down my nose at rhubarb, but not any more. It is the honourable forerunner of the soft fruit season, to be treated with respect. It was almost two decades ago that my then newly acquired and much neglected allotment was dominated by a large area of rhubarb, lording it over the surrounding colonies of such garden "chisels", and willow bark. Unable to tolerate such bombast, I resolved to remove it, lock stock and barrel, or rather rootstock and crown.

I broke a spade and bent a fork. Those crowns, I remember, were clinging tenaciously to their kingdom. Perhaps appropriately, the variety was Victoria, introduced and named in the year 1857 when she became queen — a variety that is still going strong, more robust though less quick off the mark than

the profusely flowering (if you let it) Prince Albert.

I soon regretted those demolition tactics, and discovered that you can actually grow rhubarb from seed in April. In penitent mood, therefore, I bought a Suttons seed packet labelled "Rhubarb, Victoria". The infant seedlings had an endearing charm, but they needed a couple of seasons to establish themselves, and even then didn't match the grandiloquence of their predecessors. It was Paddy, a plot neighbour now deceased alas — he was used to scare our rabbits with a gun and a three-legged dog — who came to the rescue. He gave me some crowns of his Timperley Early.

Timperley Early has an interesting history. Mr J. D. Whitwell, station director of Stockbridge House EHS at Cawood near Selby, recounts how he noted a certain Mr Baldwin of Timperley, in Cheshire noticed if lurking — a stranger in a field of the variety Linnaeus, possibly a mutation, probably a cross. He propagated it for himself and friends; and now this refined cultivar has a wide distribution. Ken Muir of Clacton-on-Sea the soft fruit specialist singles it out for praise, both for forcing and outdoor cropping.

The National Rhubarb Collection is now lodged with the Northern Horticultural Society at Harlow Car Gardens, Harrogate, Yorkshire. There are, I believe, some 70 cultivars in the collection, including names like Suttons Cherry Gem and Ruby Rhapoditeum.

The Yorkshire area between Leeds and Wakefield is a home for commercially grown rhubarb. The



Rhubarb: Victoria — drawing by Sharon Finmark

growers have access to advice from Stockbridge House where new varieties are bred and given names like Stockbridge Harbinger (a seedling from Timperley Early), S. Arrow, S. Bingo, S. Guardsman, and Cawood Delight. C. Oak, C. Castle, C. Knight, Stockbridge Arrow, raised by the previous director of the station, is said to be good for later forcing and produces dark red sticks of excellent quality. Cawood Delight also has a deep red colour which is not lost in cooking and processing. It freezes well and is attracting processors and amateurs alike.

Experimental work on rhubarb at Stockbridge House is associated with such things as spacing for better yields, shorter sticks for ease of packing, improved methods of forcing, production of virus-free, pot-grown new varieties, micropropagation, and horticultural hi-tech generally.

Back on the plot, and aware of its worth, we now care for our rhubarb. We give it a liberal helping of farmyard manure in winter. In spring we remove the unopened flower stalks. In summer we are careful not to overpull

the sticks: in fact, we stop pulling altogether in July and allow it to die down naturally in the autumn.

After the rhubarb, follows the soft fruit. Ken Muir (who also supplies asparagus), has a booklet, Cane and Bush Fruits, with recommended varieties, cultural instructions, and a fruit protection chart showing what to use and when. Among new varieties are the strawberries Hapli and Maxim, raspberries Glen Moy (early) Glen Prosen (mid-season), and Joy (late), hybrid berries Tayberry (from Scotland) and Sunberry (from East Malling, derived from the American black raspberry and Malling Jewel), the gooseberry Invicta, blackcurrant Ben Lomond and blackberry Ashton Cross.

Allotment holders will find much of instant value in Dr Hessayan's "The Vegetable Expert", just published at £2.65. The clever page presentation is such that essential information springs out at you and hits you in the eye. Also just published is the 1985 edition of Gardens to Visit (50p), or obtainable direct from Kathleen Collett, Gardeners' Sunday, White Witches, 8 Mapstone Close, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 8EX, at 70p, including packing and postage.

Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 8EX, at 70p, including packing and postage.

Odd jobbing

by Hilary Applegate

THE other day I was looking at some hebes which had been cut back by the winter weather. Hopply, a thumb-nail scraping of the bark revealed that all was not lost. But the situation raises several questions. Is it worth transplanting tender plants to a warmer site? Or to a west-facing position where frosted branches can thaw slowly? If there is no better site and there is dramatic dieback every year, is it worth keeping the plants? Or would a net cover, to keep the worst frosts off, reduce the damage to acceptable levels? And would the root system benefit from a protective mulch applied in late autumn?

It seems to me that birds have caused much less damage to crocuses this year than is often the case. And it is up to us to emulate their example. Crocuses need unimpeded foliage for a few weeks after flowering, to build up reserves for next year's display. With crocuses (and anemones, tulips, and narcissi) growing in grass, this means delaying the first mowing until the corm and bulb leaves have died away.

Fansies should be dead-headed to prolong flowering. And it is as well to bear this chore in mind when selecting summer bedding plants. For instance, mesembryanthemums and candytuft have a short season unless the flowerheads are removed regularly, whilst Tagetes signata and lobelia will flower for many weeks without this attention.

The £67,000 question

I SHALL be 65 next February, and during that year shall receive about £40,000 in matured investments. I wish to give £10,000 each to our two children. Is it quite legal to give them this amount, or is it better to give £5,000 each to them and their respective spouses? I don't want the children to wait until my death before they can use and enjoy part of my inheritance.

— A. J. Southgate

IT'S perfectly legal to give your children whatever sum you like. The question is, is it liable to capital transfer tax? You can give away up to £3,000 a year exempt from CTT. Over and above that, you can give away up to £27,000 without incurring any tax, but this amount is the nil-rate limit which would apply to the rest of your estate. The total size of your estate will dictate your course of action: you may find it best to restrict yourself to the £3,000 exempt limit each year.

YOUR MONEY LETTERS

answered by Margaret Dibben

complete on your house purchase to the end of that year, and again at the beginning of the following year. Your monthly payments then progressively pay off the annual total. So you are not actually lending the society money over the year: rather the reverse, if anything.

Honest advice MY HUSBAND and I (in our late 30s) are about to sell our business and retire. We shall have about £100,000 to invest for future income, and we wish to preserve as much capital as possible for our two children. Our problem is how to find a sound adviser. Even our accountant felt he had to tell us that he would get a

"cut" from the institutions he would advise. Our bank manager's competence seems very dubious. Could you advise on how to find a good adviser?

— J.L. Tushbridge Wells

MY ADVICE is stick with your accountant. You won't find many financial advisers who are prepared to point out their own interest in your business. You should ask him (a) if he offers commissions received against any fees he may charge; and (b) if he is advising 'insurance' based investments or unit trusts, what about the companies which pay low or no commission? These companies include Equitable Life, London Life, and Framlington Unit Management. They tend to have very low charges to the investor, and are rarely recommended by advisers who rely on commission.

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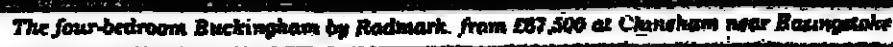
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Le Monde

BBC-1

6.45-9.25 am Open University. 9.30 Roobarb. 9.35 Battle of the Planets. 9.50 Saturday Superstore. 12.12 pm Weather News.

12.15 **GRANDSTAND**. Including: Football Focus (12.20); news (12.50); snooker - World Professional Championship from Sheffield (12.55; 4.15); swimming - GB v Sweden (3.45; 4.55); racing from Ascot (1.55; 2.30; 3.10; 3.45; 4.15; 4.50); final score (4.40).

5.15 **NEWS**: Weather News; sport; regional news.

5.30 **THE NEW ADVENTURES OF WONDER WOMAN**: The Man Who Could Move the World. Lynda La Plante's Dolly, a Dalai Lama in another daft old comic-strip exploit. Ceefax sub-titles.

6.15 **TERRY AND JUNE**: The Raft Race. More dog-eared comic domesticity with Scott and Whitfield. Ceefax sub-titles.

6.25 **THE NEW MAVERICK**: James Garner and Jack Kelly, stars of the vintage gambling Western make a reappearance in this 1978 pilot for a series aimed at reviving the Maverick name through the further adventures of nephew Ben (Charles Frank). Ceefax sub-titles.

8.15 **THE KENNY EVERETT TELEVISION SHOW**: Another maverick makes his comedy come-back with assistance from Sid Snodgrass, a Dalai Lama, a Dolly spook and an over-the-top pop group not to be confused with guests fears for Fears.

8.35 **DYNASTY**: The Rescued. So Fallon's gone and never called Jeff husband - not since first time round, anyway. But do not grieve, gentle viewer - bearing in mind the murky circumstances and the fact that reincarnation tends to run in the family, it shouldn't be anything that a quick bodyglove can't fix. Ceefax sub-titles.

9.25 **BERGERAC**: House Guest. John Nettles as Jersey cop Jim in another repeated crime tale. Ceefax sub-titles.

10.20 **NEWS**: sport; weather.

10.25 **MATCH OF THE DAY**: Jimmy Hill with the day's action from the FA Cup semi-finals.

11.25 **DRACULA HAS RISEN FROM THE GRAVE**: The fanged baddie (Christopher Lee), fancies dallying with a nubile blonde villager in this very 1968 Hammer yarn, directed by Freddie Francis, but it's okay because she's got this clerical relative (Rupert Davies). Ceefax sub-titles.

12.15 **Weather**: close.

Scotland: 10.15-11.25 pm Sportscentre.

Anglia
6.15 As London.
9.25 Cartoon Time.
9.35 Scooby Do.
10.10 No. 7.
10.15 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons.
10.20 No. 7.
10.25 Chips.
10.30 As London.
10.35 Happy Days.
10.40 As London.
10.45 At the End of the Day, close.

Central
6.15 As London.

Channel
6.15 As London.
9.25 Captain Scarlet.
9.35 Scooby Do.
10.10 No. 7.
10.15 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons.
10.20 No. 7.
10.25 Chips.
10.30 As London.
10.35 Happy Days.
10.40 As London.
10.45 At the End of the Day, close.

SUNDAY

BBC-1

6.45-9.50 am Open University. 9.55 Play School. 9.55 Superbook. 9.55 This is the Day. 10.05 Asian Magazine. 10.30 Use Your Head. 10.55 Greek Language and People. 11.20 Talking Stock. 11.45 Business Club. 12.10 pm Mr Smith's Indoor Garden: foliage plants. 12.35 Farming. 1.00 News Headlines. 1.15 Bonanza. 1.50 Cartoon Double Bill. 2.00 Eastenders. Omnibus edition. Ceefax sub-titles. 3.00 Film: Moonlight. 1955 swash-buckler with Stewart Granger, George Sanders, Joan Greenwood. 4.25 Top Gear. London and S-B only. See below for regional variations. 4.55 Arthur Negus at 80. Tribute to the antiquer expert who died on April 5.

5.45 **ANTIQUES ROADSHOW**: Hugh Scully and the team take the show to Banbury. Ceefax sub-titles.

6.25 **APPEAL**: By Robert Hardy on behalf of the church of St Nicholas, Stamford-on-Avon, Northants.

6.30 **NEWS**: weather news.

6.40 **SONGS OF PRAISE**: From Stafford. Ceefax sub-titles.

7.15 **LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE**: The Loxley Lozenge. Bill Owen, Peter Salis, Brian Wilde as the vintage trio in a re-run of the one where Wesley Perden wants their help. Oracle sub-titles.

7.45 **MASTERMIND**: Magnus Magnusson chairs another semi-final, with tonight's foursome choosing new subjects: Jan Hus and the Hussite Wars, English poetry of WWI, history of astronomy/cosmology to 1700, and history of Athens 500-323 BC.

8.15 **A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY**: Richard Briers leads this new production of Turgenev's classic romantic comedy as the Russian landowner Arkady whose household is beset with romantic liaisons, with Eleanor Bron as his wife Natalya.

10.20 **NEWS**: weather news.

10.30 **THE ROCK GOSPEL SHOW**: Sheila Walsh introduces more music with a message.

11.15 **THE COMING OF AGE**: In The Family. How can the old be helped to cope with the pains of the present?

11.35 **A FAMILY BAND**: The Stants from Great Missenden are the first music-making families featured in this repeated series, introduced by Roy Castle.

12.15 **Weather**: close.

Wales: 2.0-3.0 pm Welsh Rugby Union. 4.25-4.55 Rock Gospel Show. 11.30 The Coming of Age. 12.30 am News. 12.35-1.00 am Landward. 1.0-1.30 am Seven Days. 1.30-2.00 am The Coming of Age. 2.0-2.30 am The Coming of Age. 2.30-3.00 am The Coming of Age. 3.0-3.30 am The Coming of Age. 3.30-4.00 am The Coming of Age. 4.0-4.30 am The Coming of Age. 4.30-5.00 am The Coming of Age. 5.0-5.30 am The Coming of Age. 5.30-6.00 am The Coming of Age. 6.0-6.30 am The Coming of Age. 6.30-7.00 am The Coming of Age. 7.0-7.30 am The Coming of Age. 7.30-8.00 am The Coming of Age. 8.0-8.30 am The Coming of Age. 8.30-9.00 am The Coming of Age. 9.0-9.30 am The Coming of Age. 9.30-10.00 am The Coming of Age. 10.0-10.30 am The Coming of Age. 10.30-11.00 am The Coming of Age. 11.0-11.30 am The Coming of Age. 11.30-12.00 am The Coming of Age. 12.0-12.30 am The Coming of Age. 12.30-1.00 am The Coming of Age. 1.0-1.30 am The Coming of Age. 1.30-2.00 am The Coming of Age. 2.0-2.30 am The Coming of Age. 2.30-3.00 am The 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9.0-9.30 am The Coming of Age. 9.30-10.00 am The Coming of Age. 10.0-10.30 am The Coming of Age. 10.30-11.00 am The Coming of Age. 11.0-11.30 am The Coming of Age. 11.30-12.00 am The Coming of Age. 12.0-12.30 am The Coming of Age. 12.30-1.00 am The Coming of Age. 1.0-1.30 am The Coming of Age. 1.30-2.00 am The Coming of Age. 2.0-2.30 am The Coming of Age. 2.30-3.00 am The Coming of Age. 3.0-3.30 am The Coming of Age. 3.30-4.00 am The Coming of Age. 4.0-4.30 am The Coming of Age. 4.30-5.00 am The Coming of Age. 5.0-5.30 am The Coming of Age. 5.30-6.00 am The Coming of Age. 6.0-6.30 am The Coming of Age. 6.30-7.00 am The Coming of Age. 7.0-7.30 am The Coming of Age. 7.30-8.00 am The Coming of Age. 8.0-8.30 am The Coming of Age. 8.30-9.00 am The Coming of Age. 9.0-9.30 am The Coming of Age. 9.30-10.00 am The Coming of Age. 10.0-10.30 am The Coming of Age. 10.30-11.00 am The Coming of Age. 11.0-11.30 am The Coming of Age. 11.30-12.00 am The Coming of Age. 12.0-12.30 am The Coming of Age. 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am The Coming of Age. 4.30-5.00 am The Coming of Age. 5.0-5.30 am The Coming of Age. 5.30-6.00 am The Coming of Age. 6.0-6.30 am The Coming of Age. 6.30-7.00 am The Coming of Age. 7.0-7.30 am The Coming of Age. 7.30-8.00 am The Coming of Age. 8.0-8.30 am The Coming of Age. 8.30-9.00 am The Coming of Age. 9.0-9.30 am The Coming of Age. 9.30-10.00 am The Coming of Age. 10.0-10.30 am The Coming of Age. 10.30-11.00 am The Coming of Age. 11.0-11.30 am The Coming of Age. 11.30-12.00 am The Coming of Age. 12.0-12.30 am The Coming of Age. 12.30-1.00 am The Coming of Age. 1.0-1.30 am The Coming of Age. 1.30-2.00 am The Coming of Age. 2.0-2.30 am The Coming of Age. 2.30-3.00 am The Coming of Age. 3.0-3.30 am The Coming of Age. 3.30-4.00 am The Coming of Age. 4.0-4.30 am The Coming of Age. 4.30-5.00 am The Coming of Age. 5.0-5.30 am The Coming of Age. 5.30-6.00 am The Coming of Age. 6.0-6.30 am The Coming of Age. 6.30-7.00 am The Coming of Age. 7.0-7.30 am The Coming of Age. 7.30-8.00 am The 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